

Art, Community, & Education



Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center Celebrates 1st Anniversary

Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

Section II is filled with information about arts, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board list

Joe Michell School Celebrates 50 years

By Patricia Koning

There was a special surprise for parents and students at Joe Michell School's back to school barbecue at the end of August—a gigantic birthday cake, celebrating the school's 50th year of educating Livermore students.

"This is the little school that could," exclaimed principal Angela Ehrlich. "We are small but very competitive."

Enrollment at Joe Michell has increased to 466 students this year, perhaps a result of the addition of the middle school in 2008. Ehrlich pointed out that this is the first year the school has had two complete fourth grade classes. There is now a waiting list for seventh and eighth grade.

Joe Michell first opened its doors in 1961. Originally, the Livermore School District planned on naming it Elaine Avenue School. However, at the request of school board trustees it was named Joe Michell in honor of the District superintendent at the time.

Today the school serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade, just as it did in

(See CELEBRATION, page 10)

HUD Funds Will Pay for Counseling

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced a grant of \$20,590.63 to the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center (TVHOC). The TVHOC is one of only 139 organizations nationwide, to qualify for a grant through HUD's highly competitive process, and the only one in the East Bay.

According to HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, "The funding is specifically earmarked to provide counseling assistance relating to mortgage modification, avoiding potential mortgage scams, and assisting victims of scams." Only organizations that receive federal certification in housing counseling and regular performance reviews qualified for HUD grants.

"This funding comes at a very fortunate time," said Randi DeHollander, Board of Directors Chairwoman for the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center. "Over 6000 families in the Tri-Valley are currently under threat of foreclosure, up from 5000 in 2010. These homeowners could benefit from the early intervention and counseling that brings the best chance for successful mortgage modification. We provide these services at no cost to homeowners. However, taking a family through the counseling and mortgage modification process costs the Center, on average, \$500. Given the growing number of people who could use our help, we are very thankful for any funding we receive."

Over the last 12 months the TVHOC staff provided mortgage modification services and foreclosure prevention counsel-

(See FUNDS, page 9)

Livermore to Pursue Doolan SOI

Livermore will move forward with plans to apply to LAFCO to move 2620 acres of Doolan Canyon to Livermore's sphere of influence (SOI).

The city council vote was 4 to 0 with Marj Leider absent.

As part of his motion, Doug Horner, directed staff to look at the possibility of providing water to current residents in Doolan Canyon. He also suggested that the city continue conversations with residents there.

Mayor Marshall Kamena said

that in talks he held with staff, there appears to be a source of money that could be used to provide water to the area. Kamena also commented that moving forward the SOI request at this time would be a way to open a dialog with Dublin to come to an agreement for the area that would be beneficial to all.

Horner noted that the staff report makes it clear that preservation of the area is consistent with a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Dublin, Livermore's

general plan, and conservation plans of ABAG, East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and the Tri-Valley Conservancy. "It is also consistent with LAFCO policy to protect open space and discourage urban sprawl," said Horner.

LAFCO is the agency that determines the sphere of influence. Currently, Doolan Canyon is within Alameda County. It is not part of the sphere of influence (SOI) of any city. Both Livermore and Dublin are now

moving forward with plans to take control of the area. Dublin is in the process of preparing an environmental impact report that would consider the impacts of a 1900 unit active senior community within the canyon.

If Dublin and Livermore could not come to an agreement, and LAFCO refused to award the SOI to either city, then the canyon would remain as it is, some observers speculated.

Livermore Senior Planner Steve Riley told the council

that placing the area within Livermore's SOI would stabilize the canyon's land use, protect sensitive habitat, maintain existing rural uses, protect public open space investments, and help to secure the area as a greenbelt buffer between Livermore and Dublin. The area is known to be home to several threatened species.

Riley pointed out that the city has made significant investments in Doolan Canyon consistent with the city's goals of habitat

(See DOOLAN, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Pleasanton Rage and Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club took part in the annual Soccer Parade on Main Street in downtown Pleasanton last Saturday. Pictured are the Jesters. For more photos, see page 8.

Task Force To Consider Hospitality Guidelines

The Pleasanton City Council voted to establish an ad hoc hospitality guideline task force.

Pamela Ott, Director of Economic Development, told the council that the task force will review guidelines that address consistency in hours of operation for venues, indoor and outdoor music, and acceptable noise levels. "We hope to standardize issues surrounding hospitality in the downtown."

The vote to proceed was unanimous. However, the council said that rather than having just the three issues suggested by staff for review by the task force, issues raised by neighbors should be addressed at the same time.

Councilmember Cindy McGovern said that the focus of the review seems to be on businesses. "We need to include quality of life for neighbors. I still receive complaints about public drunkenness. Why not just put the focus on both business and residential issues?"

McGovern pointed to a list of six elements listed in the Responsible Hospital Institute (RHI) model. They include public safety; music and entertainment; multi-use sidewalks that could feature such things as art, benches and street entertainers; quality of life aimed at controlling noise, trash and nuisance of all kinds; transportation; and venue safety and security.

(See HOSPITALITY, page 4)

Speakers Applaud Economic Benefits of Regional Theater

Supporters of a regional theater in downtown Livermore took the initiative Monday night in touting the economic benefits of the theater.

Last February, the city council approved an agreement with the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) enabling LVPAC to move forward with a 2000 seat theater on the Old Lucky site. The property is bordered by Railroad Avenue and So. Livermore Avenue.

Several mayoral and council

candidates running for office this November have expressed concerns about the impact of the regional theater on the city's general fund. The general fund is proposed as a guarantee of bonds that would pay for the construction. The bonds would be funded by sources other than the general fund.

Len Alexander, executive director of LVPAC, said the reason for coming forward at this time is because the regional theater has been raised as an issue in

the upcoming election. He said that he had asked several community leaders to present the facts regarding the benefits of the regional theater to the city's general fund.

Alexander pointed out that LVPAC is a nonprofit organization founded in 1998 to build and operate a 500 seat community theater and a larger regional theater. With the city council and redevelopment agency approvals last spring, LVPAC is now in the final stages of development for

the 2000 seat regional theater.

He provided an update on the success of the 500 seat Bankhead Theater. It hosts more than 180 public events each year, attracting 70,000 visitors, including 14,000 school children. More than \$3.4 million in ticket revenue has been returned to the local arts groups that use the theater. LVPAC has created more than \$12 million in economic impact for the community. The new season of 47 presentations has advance ticket

(See THEATER, page 4)

Winery Planned for the Former Cedar Grove Site

by Harry Stoll

The Abboud Family Winery could be the name of a winery, tasting room—and eventually an event center—in the works for a prime spot on South Livermore Avenue a bit above where it doglegs to Tesla Road. The 14-acre asymmetrical property is not far south of Retzlaff Vineyards and Page Mill Winery. It is contiguous to Concannon Vineyard. Wine buyers and tasters could take an easy ride east along Tesla Road to many more eno endeavors.

On July 1 the Abboud family of Pleasanton bought the property for \$1.7 million from Cedar Grove Community Church. The church's efforts to build a large house of worship on the property were rejected by Alameda County.

A family spokesman, who prefers to be known as Mr. Abboud, said they plan to plant a vineyard, operate a winery and tasting room, and eventually have an event center on the parcel in the crook of the dogleg.

In late August, the Tri-Valley Conservancy paid the Abboud

family \$300,000 for the development rights, which effectively extinguishes development. The TVC is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving agricultural property. Soon, one of its green, white, and blue "Preserved in Perpetuity" signs might appear on the property frontage along South Livermore.

TVC Executive Director Laura Mercier said the payment was made using mitigation fees controlled by it that are from the developer of Ruby Hill Estates. The City of Pleasanton forwards the funds to the TVC. The funds can only be used in the South Livermore Area, which has a specific plan to preserve agricultural lands. The TVC will restrict development to two acres, a bit more than its typical 10%. Mercier said the TVC works with landowners to make sure the property is viable for a winery. The two acres contains a barn and three houses that could possibly be of temporary use as a winery and tasting room.

Mercier said that the tenants now on the property know about

(See WINERY, page 10)

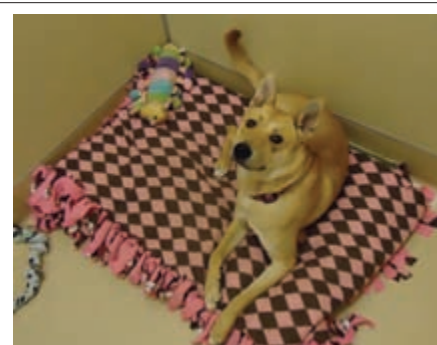


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Artist Richard Reitz was busy last weekend painting "Blocked Out," on a utility box on the corner of First Street and So. Livermore Ave. Other artists painted the boxes in the downtown area as part of the city's Urban Art Mural Program. The City of Livermore continues to accept sponsorships for this utility box mural program. Sponsorship Forms are available on the City of Livermore's website www.cityoflivermore.net.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Ella is a sweet puppy blended with Shiba Inu and Finnish Spitz. At only 9 months old, she is eager to please and loves to learn. Ella enjoys running, playing with toys, and cuddling with her favorite blankets. Her spunky personality truly shines. Go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Hours are Tues.- Sat. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Melissa Bonnel)



The 23-passenger Downtown Route Shuttle awaits passengers in front of the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Paratransit Pleasanton Downtown Route to Run on Sundays

The Pleasanton paratransit Downtown Shuttle Route (DSR) will start a Sunday route, beginning Sept. 18.

The 23-passenger bus will make stops at three major senior housing complexes: Ridgeview Commons, Stanley Junction, and the Gardens at Ironwood.

Morning stops will be at Lighthouse Baptist Church, Centrepointhe Presbyterian Church, Valley Community Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynewood United Methodist Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Vineyard Avenue, and St. Augustine Catholic Church.

In the afternoon, starting at 1:10 p.m. at Ridgeview, the route will change to take people to Safeway and Raley's.

There will also be a flex stop at the Pleasanton Library, where people can ask to get off or to board. The timing is such that

people could be on time for the free musical programs that sometimes are offered at the library at 2 p.m. on Sundays.

Other flex stops include St. Mary Street on Peters Avenue and Neal Street near Main Street. People can catch the Wheels No. 10 bus at those stops. There is also a flex stop in front of the Museum on Main.

All three downtown flex stops provide good access to Main Street restaurants and their Sunday brunches.

In order to offer the Sunday service, the Wednesday service is being discontinued. It had the lowest ridership of the five days.

In another change, the route will go to the Regal Cinemas in Dublin on Tuesdays. That enables seniors to attend movies more easily. There is no movie theater in Pleasanton.

Also on Tuesdays, the senior

bus has added the East Dublin/Pleasanton BART station as a destination.

There have been other changes to the schedule. Seniors interested in obtaining a schedule may do so by calling 931-5376, or visiting the senior center at 5353 Sunol Blvd.

Riders must be registered with the city. Cost of tickets is \$12 for a sheet of eight. One ticket enables a ticket holder to ride all day.

A new schedule is being sent to all registered riders. After Sept. 18, it will also be available at the city's web site at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/transportation/.

The shuttle run will operate during this fiscal year, to June 30, 2012, with assistance from a \$126,000 from the Alameda County Transportation Commission. The route gave more than 4700 rides in the past year.

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San Francisco

BUSINESS TIMES

Largest Residential Real Estate Firms in the East Bay

(Ranked by gross sales by East Bay offices)

Rank	Prior	Company Address Phone Website	Gross sales at East Bay office(s) 2010	Gross sales at East Bay office(s) 2009	No. properties sold by East Bay offices in 2010	Offices East Bay/ Companywide	Full Time lic. sales agents in the East Bay	Top Bay Area executive
1	3	J. Rockcliff Realtors 4115 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Ste. 201, Danville 94506 925-648-5300 www.rockcliff.com	\$1,783,322,410	\$1,456,302,306	3,307	9 9	543	Jeff Sposito President

3152 PASEO GRANADA PLEASANTON

OPEN SUN 1-4

CINDY ENGEL (925) 580.5107

4 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,066+/-sq.ft., 0.17+/- Acres
Chef's Kit w/ S/S, Granite, Custom Mill-work, 2 station office w/ cherry cabs, Baths w/ cherrywd, granite, Plantation shutters.

1695 GERMANO WAY PLEASANTON

UWE MAERZ (925) 360.8758

5 Bd • 6.5 Ba • 7,330+/-sq.ft., 0.65+/- Acres
This home offers an impressive entry foyer, stately office, movie theatre, expansive kitchen, walk-in wine cellar and more.

2068 CABERNET WAY LIVERMORE

OPEN SUN 1-4

GAIL HENDERSON (925) 980.5648

5Bd • 4.5Ba • 4,428+/-sq.ft., 0.34+/- Acres
Largest model in Arroyo Crossings Estates w/ 5 BRs, LOFT, OFFICE, MUD ROOM, 4.5 ba., walk to downtown & school, large private backyard. Sq.ft. DOES NOT include office + mud room.

2188 MCLEAN PLACE LIVERMORE

PATRICK MARAVELIAS (925) 890.1254

3Bd • 4.5Ba • 4,062+/-sq.ft. • 0.33+/- Acres
Stunning one of a kind, custom home in the heart of Livermore Wine Country. Every detail of this home has been carefully considered and has every amenity imaginable. Pool.

2238 FOURTH ST LIVERMORE

TOM BRAMELL (925) 583.2180

2Homes 1Lot • 1,360+/-sq.ft. • +/-0.11Acres
Prime downtown income property! 2br 1bth home in front and 1br 1bth cottage in rear. Lot has large 120sf insulated shed with electricity in back. Utilities and landscape maintained by tenants.

3545 MERCATO CT PLEASANTON

DIANE SASS (925) 583.2168

5 Bd • 4(2) Ba • 5,555+/-sq.ft. • +/-0.56Acres
Lovely Ruby Hill custom! Unfinished bonus room. Huge accessible attic & 1,600 sq ft unfinished basement plumbed for bath. ily room. Great potential-many possibilities!

2306 MERLOT LN LIVERMORE

COREY GREEN (925) 583.2173

4 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,940+/-sq.ft., 0.36+/- Acres
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925.648.5300

Blackhawk West
3880 Blackhawk Rd.
Danville, CA 94506
925.736.6000

Danville
15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Lafayette
3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
925.385.2330

Livermore
1983 Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925.667.2100

Montclair/ Piedmont
6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200
Oakland, CA 94611
510.339.4800

Orinda
89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100
Orinda, CA 94563
925.251.7000

Pleasanton
5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925.251.2500

Walnut Creek
1700 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925.280.8500

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Home Auction

Alameda County Public Works Agency Director, Daniel Woldesenbet, announced the auction of an improved residential surplus property on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at the Board of Supervisors' chambers at 11:00 a.m. (approximately).

The surplus property is a 3 bedroom, 1 bath, single-family residence located on North 6th Street, Castro Valley. The property is being sold "AS IS." Interested persons may preview the property on the website www.acgov.org/pwa through October 1, 2011.

In order to maximize exposure and to reduce staff time in showing the available property to prospective bidders, the use of the internet will greatly enhance these efforts and also reduce administrative costs.

To be eligible to participate in the auction, a bidder must pre-qualify with a \$25,000.00 deposit (cashiers/certified checks only). Additional infor-

mation regarding the auction, terms and conditions of the sale, and the opportunity to submit a sealed bid at the Board of Supervisors' meeting may be obtained through the website.

Bilingual Poll Workers Sought

Bilingual Poll Workers are needed for the November 8, 2011 Consolidated District Election to work at the polls in the cities of Emeryville, Livermore and Newark. Poll workers will be paid for their Election Day service and their training.

Those interested in being a Bilingual Poll Worker must be fluent in English & Chinese or English & Spanish, be a registered voter in Alameda County and attend mandatory training.

Visit <http://www.acgov.org/rov/workers.htm> for more information and to fill out an application, or contact the Registrar of Voters office at (510) 272-6971.

Concern Expressed Over Fate of Valentin Alviso Home

The current residents of the Valentin Alviso house have been told to vacate the premises by Thursday, September 15. Owners of the property have previously bulldozed the large barn in the rear of the property. There is some fear that this might be the fate of the Alviso house, the tank-house, and the existing olive orchard, planted in approximately 1870. Here is an opportunity to save an important piece of Livermore history. The hope is that the bulldozing can wait until an architect skilled in preservation work can evaluate the site.

At the crest of a hill off North Livermore Avenue, the tired old house stands in front of an even

older tank house and olive orchard. Although designed in the bungalow style, Charles Huff, Pleasanton architect, placed the home's building date as 1891 or 1892.

The 1878 Alameda County Atlas shows a residence there, along with the orchard. Originally, this property was part of Robert Livermore's Rancho Las Positas.

After his death, his land was divided among his children. His daughter, Josefa, inherited the 375 acres of which this house site was a part. Josefa married Augustine Alviso in 1868. They came to live on the hill about 1870.

Augustin Alviso's family was notable in early California history. His great-grandfather came with his family on the Anza expedition to Alta California in 1776 when he was four years old. His grandfather enlisted in the Spanish army at the San Francisco Presidio, serving for

29 years.

Like Robert Livermore, Alviso's father was awarded a Mexican land grant—the Potrero de los Cerritos in what is now southern Alameda County. Valentin served as an Alameda County Supervisor for two years and later two terms as an assemblyman. Valentin was a cousin of Francisco Alviso, who built the Alviso adobe in Pleasanton.

Josefa Livermore died in December 1893, so she only lived on the property for a few years. Alviso remarried and moved to the San Luis Obispo area in 1899. He leased his home to the John Meyn family.

The property was bought by F.S. Gomes in 1911. According to local historian Virginia Bennett, Alviso built the residence. In one of her articles, she said, "When the John Meyns rented the house, the Spanish love of a fiesta must have been built into the house, for the Meyns loved to entertain."

'Cop on Top' to Raise Funds for Local Special Olympics



Last year, the event raised over \$17,000.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

During the weekend of September 15 -17, the Livermore Police Department will be conducting its third annual "Cop On Top" event to support Special Olympics.

Starting Thursday, September 15 at 12:00 p.m., members of the police department will begin sitting 30 feet off the ground on aerial lifts at the corner of First Street and S. Livermore Avenue. They won't come down for 60 hours, or until they raise \$20,000. Sergeant John Hurd has vowed to stay on the lift the entire 60 hours without setting foot on the ground until the \$20,000 has been collected.

The event will be raising funds for the local Special Olympic athletes. All of the money raised will stay in the local area and support local athletes. It takes \$250.00 to sponsor one athlete for one sport. Special Olympics is a year round program that instills life skills, confidence, and accomplishment in our athletes.

During the weekend there will be activities occurring below the aerial lifts. Special Olympic athletes will be stopping in to meet and greet those who come by to make a donation.

Last year the event raised over \$17,000.

Livermore police officers and staff will be donating their time during this event. There will be police officers, civilian person-

nel, and LPD volunteers helping to raise funds and raise awareness for Special Olympics.

Donations can be made online at <http://copsontop.kintera.org/faf/hom...?event=492385>

Emergency Preparedness Fair Part of Farmers' Market

An emergency preparedness fair will be presented as part of the Livermore Farmers' Market on Thurs., Sept. 22.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is organizing the event, which will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. at Carnegie Park, 4th Street, between J and K Streets, downtown Livermore.

Exhibitors will include the fire department's engine company, smoke house, emergency preparedness and hazardous materials/used oil programs.

Other exhibitors will be the Livermore Police Department, Alameda County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Canines, 211, Allay Life Kits, American Red Cross, American Safety Academy, DOM's Outdoor Outfitters, Kaiser Permanente, Livermore Radio Klub, and ValleyCare Health System.

There is no admission charge.

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HERITAGE
ESTATES

EDITORIAL

Looking at All Issues

The decision by the Pleasanton City Council to include neighborhood issues as part of the new ad hoc hospitality guideline task force's review process was a good one.

The original plan for the task force was to review hours of operation, indoor and outdoor music, and noise levels. The ultimate result would be to revitalize the downtown by offering entertainment and other activities.

In the past, when businesses have proposed being open for longer hours or adding music, neighbors have come out to complain about the impacts on their quality of life. There were concerns about drunkenness and trash.

With no guidelines in place, the council attempted to accommodate both viewpoints, placing a variety of conditions on use permits that businesses may not have anticipated.

The goal of the task force is to standardize guidelines. The elements to be considered by the task will include public safety; music and entertainment; multi-use sidewalks that could feature such things as art, benches and street entertainers; quality of life aimed at controlling noise, trash and nuisance of all kinds; transportation; and venue safety and security.

With the new guidelines in place, businesses will know upfront what is allowed. It will also let residents who chose to live in the downtown know what they can expect in the way of impacts.

Dublin Authorizes EIR Study for Doolan Canyon

The Dublin City Council last week authorized the city manager to sign a contract for a firm to conduct an environmental review for a sphere of influence study to include Doolan Canyon.

The vote was 4 to 0 with Don Biddle absent. Councilmember Kevin Hart commented, "Doolan is still part of Dublin for all intents and purposes."

Mayor Tim Sbranti pointed out that maps show Doolan Canyon as being part of Dublin.

Circlepoint, an environmental consulting firm, will prepare the documentation to support the city's request to include the canyon within its sphere of influence. The agreement is for an amount not to exceed \$800,000.

A developer, Pacific Union, will pay for the work.

Bruce Myers from Pacific Union told the council, "Doolan represents the last piece of a vision for East Dublin. I believe our senior project is the right one for this property. It will take time to vet the project. However, I believe the merits of the proposal will stand."

Pacific Union is looking at a senior community of up to 1900 homes. Of the 1450 acres that would be part of the project, Pacific Union has said that 800 acres would be preserved as open space.

Councilmember Eric Swallow said the environmental work has to be completed in order to determine the impacts. "Approving the work is no commitment on our part for or against the project."

DOOLAN

(continued from page one)

and open space preservation. The investments include the purchase of 107 acres at a cost of \$1.01 million at the gateway into the canyon and a contribution of \$2 million towards the purchase of 633 acres by the EBRPD.

In its master plan, the park district has designated the canyon as a future regional preserve with the potential of providing regional trail connections.

Attorney Peter MacDonald, represents property owners of 1100 acres in the canyon. He called the proposed action by Livermore to take control of the area, "unplanned and unlawful." He proposed that Livermore work with Dublin to create a plan for the area. "The residents of the area want nothing to do with Livermore's plan to condemn property to the permanent pursuit of open space."

MacDonald suggested that Livermore's SOI would result in a mandatory denial by LAFCO. He stated that a SOI designation is a step towards annexation with the idea that development would be encouraged within the area. "Livermore's proposal violates that. We are willing to work with Livermore and Dublin towards an outcome that provides a permanent boundary for Dublin, regional trails and needed senior housing."

Bruce Myers, Pacific Union Land Co., represented the developer planning the senior housing. He said the company also owns land in Livermore. "That makes us an interested stakeholder in what happens in Livermore. We are not interested in starting a war. Doolan is not part of any city. It makes sense that Livermore and Dublin work together to benefit everyone involved. It would be a chance to provide a permanent eastern boundary for Dublin once and for all."

There were speakers both for and against the SOI plan by

Livermore.

Janis Turner spoke for the Tri-Valley branch of the Sierra Club. "We have been watching with concern since Dublin made known its plan to possibly build in Doolan Canyon. We hope that it will be one long greenbelt." She supported moving forward with the SOI application.

North Livermore landowner Richard Stanley had an opposite viewpoint. He stated, "This is not about the SOI; it's about property control. This is evolving into a property rights issue."

Casie Patterson, a Doolan Canyon resident, said her dream has always been to have adequate water. She said that 9 of the 11 owner occupied homes were opposed to Livermore's action. "This is an attempt to tell us what to do with land. It would be beautiful if it had water. It's desolate. It is dry. Give us water."

The city council included a request to consider providing water to the residents as part of the Doolan Canyon package.

Two candidates for office in Livermore, Barbara Hickman and Bobbie Dale Burger, both spoke in support of applying to LAFCO for SOI status.

Jean King said she was for moving forward with obtaining SOI over Doolan Canyon. "Each time Dublin moves its border, it says it is the last step. Then they move again. Doolan is the place to stop. It would save a wonderful resource."

Bob Baltzer spoke for Friends of Livermore. He noted that every study that has been conducted recommends preserving the area. The Tri-Valley Business Council suggested the area be used to mitigate development in other areas. "Developing Doolan Canyon would ruin an almost pristine western valley. It would put sprawl one parcel from Collier Canyon and open up North Livermore to piecemeal

Plans to Demolish 103-Year-Old Home Raises Questions about Pleasanton Preservation Guidelines

The Pleasanton City Council approved a high density residential development on Old Stanley Blvd. in the downtown area.

At the same time, they raised concerns about the future of older homes and neighborhoods. A 103 year old home is located on the site. It is to be demolished to make way for the new housing.

The council vote was 3 to 2 with Matt Sullivan and Cindy McGovern opposed.

Approved were 13 single family homes on a little more than one acre. Issues raised were removal of large trees, lack of parking, increased traffic, and noise from trains running on the adjacent railroad tracks.

Brian Dolan, Director of Community Development, told the council that a consultant determined that the home on the property was of no significant historical or architectural importance. The trees were considered dangerous, as they were dropping limbs. The railroad tracks will require mitigation, which are included in the conditions of approval. Two parking places have been added to help alleviate the parking problem.

Dolan said staff believes that the project blends well with the overall character of the downtown. "Homes are 1600 to 2000 square feet, a size we don't see a lot of. I believe most of the impacts have been addressed."

Linda Garbarino, president of the Pleasanton Heritage Association, talked about an ongoing issue. She noted that Old Stanley is one of the four heritage neighborhoods her group was asked to look at. "The area deserves some level of protection." She said that while there are guidelines with regard to historic preservation in the downtown, the guidelines are not accessible to developers.

Garbarino said that by allowing older homes to be torn down because of their condition, people are rewarded for not maintaining heritage homes. "I know that not all homes are eligible for the historic registry. We need to review the guidelines and determine how to define neighborhoods to provide better protection for older structures. Application of the historic preservation guidelines is inconsistent."

Her comments were echoed

by Councilmember Sullivan. "If we keep removing older homes little by little, soon they will all be gone. We need to do some work on preservation guidelines, hopefully sooner than later. The larger issue with this site is cramming 13 houses in this space. It is not good planning. There was significant neighborhood opposition. The requests of influential property owners trump the concerns of a neighborhood."

McGovern was concerned about the interpretation of the Downtown Specific Plan when it comes to development. She noted that there were two reports on the trees; one indicated they could be preserved. The trees are being removed, because the developer wants to put a house there. She suggested that larger trees be planted rather than the 15 gallon trees required. "I am saddened by the loss of the trees and the house."

Councilmember Jerry Thorne commented that the over-arching concern is the future of the neighborhood and its overall character. Old Stanley is part of the Downtown Specific Plan. Residential

areas in the downtown are generally zoned for higher density. When it comes to existing homes, almost any building becomes a part of the character of the city. "As we go forward, we will need to provide guidelines. Currently, we are using rules based on state guidelines. The city needs its own guidelines. In the future, those living in an area should be engaged in planning at the beginning of a project."

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio stated that there is a need to balance neighborhood wants with developer wants. She agreed with Thorne that neighbors need to be engaged in the process earlier.

She added, "These are modest size homes. We have not built many of them. It bodes well for new people who want to move into Pleasanton."

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman called it a difficult project because of its location. It has been reviewed twice. She called the trees a safety issue; therefore they need to be removed. "What we are getting in return is an affordable by design neighborhood."

HOSPITALITY

(continued from page one)

Ott pointed out that hours of operation and noise come up most frequently as issues when a hospitality district is discussed. That is why they were part of the main focus.

Other councilmembers agreed with McGovern. Cheryl Cook-Kallio commented that she thought the discussion should include issues raised by people living in the downtown.

Councilmember Matt Sullivan added, "I don't think we should narrow the focus of the task force. We need a balanced committee."

The committee will be comprised of 11 members. The will include two councilmembers, two planning commissioners, two members of the Pleasanton Downtown Association Board of Directors, and five Pleasanton residents.

Applications are currently being accepted for the five at-large positions on a new ad hoc Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force.

The task force will convene in late October 2011 and will complete its work by May 2012, with monthly meetings and additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Applicants must be residents of Pleasanton with an interest in the vitality and economic health of downtown Pleasanton, and in making recommendations that balance a vibrant downtown with

consideration to the district's adjacent neighborhoods. Prospective Task Force members should be available to attend at least one or two meetings per month from October 2011 through March 2012. The City seeks task force members who are able to undertake background reading and research, work in collaboration, engage the community in constructive dialogue about issues and opportunities in the downtown district, and can provide input on draft guidelines to be recommended to the City

Council.

Interested parties should submit completed applications to the City Clerk's office by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2011. The Pleasanton City Council will confirm task force members at its meeting of October 18, 2011.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office, located at 123 Main Street in Pleasanton, or can be downloaded at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcom-mapp.pdf. For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk, at (925) 931-5027.

THEATER

(continued from page one)

sales running 48 percent ahead of last season.

Turning to the regional theater, Alexander said it is anticipated to

attract more than 300,000 attendees per year, including 30,000 students. Ticket revenue and contributed income will cover operating costs and build a long term endowment.

The LVPAC board and staff have raised \$11.5 million toward the cost of construction, before the official capital campaign has been announced. Bond costs will be paid by a combination of LVPAC fund-raising, ticket fees, and RDA tax increment. No general fund dollars will be used. In fact, the city's general fund will benefit from enhanced sales tax revenue from restaurants and shops that open in the downtown to serve our audiences. The annual economic impact from the regional there is estimated at more than \$20 million.

Bill Dunlop, a member of the Livermore School Board, spoke as an individual. He noted the positive impacts of the arts on education. Studies have found that those who take part in the arts do better in every phase of life. With cutbacks in arts education, the regional theater will help to fill the gap, exposing students to a variety of cultural experiences.

Developer Don Tishman said that he had developed urban projects in 30 major cities throughout the United States in the last fifty years. "I have been able to watch what happens to cities over time. Cities either get better or worse; they don't stay the same. In order to prosper, Livermore needs to become culturally and economically diverse. Then it can compete with neighboring communities. The regional theater will help to foster economic development, helping the city's general fund."

cooperation with Dublin, neither city will be granted SOI. The interested parties have to come to LAFCO with a fundamental agreement. Bringing this forward at this time is a good idea."

The City of Dublin sent a letter to Livermore objecting to Livermore's proposed SOI amendment.

In the letter, Dublin points out that "Doolan Canyon has never been part of Livermore. The SOI amendment is contrary to Livermore's growth policies." The letter states that annexation to a city is not an appropriate method for preserving open space under LAFCO policies, and in any event, is premature. It is premature, because Dublin is currently professing a general plan and SOI amendment application for the area.

Livermore should revise the proposed negative declaration to analyze the potential impacts of its proposed SOI amendment, the letter continues. "No land use changes does not necessarily equate to no potential future development on the project area parcels."

The letter, signed by city manager Joni Pattillo, concludes, "The city strongly believes that the existing application review process for the Dublin Preserve is an appropriate forum for both cities to continue a history of deliberation and cooperation."

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be submitted by e-mail to editmail@compuserve.com.)

BART to Livermore Melanie Blaylock Livermore

Here's what I read: Livermore residents have paid taxes that support BART for 47 years while awaiting their turn for a

station. Now we have the opportunity to extend that tax for another ?? years for the benefit of a CHANCE to have our first BART station within our lifetimes. I say "chance" because there was nothing in the article to indicate BART leadership has guaranteed we will get a station "on an aggressive timeline" if we approve the tax extension. I recall reading previously that the City of Livermore has no authority to direct BART on this topic, the City can merely make a recommendation. Therefore, without a formal commitment from BART leadership, we are buying nothing more than a chance by continuing the transportation tax...the same chance we've been paying for for 47 years.

I find this a disappointing response to our requests for the City's support of a Livermore BART station along the freeway route rather than downtown. It feels a little like we're being bamboozled.

(Editor's note: the tax discussed in the article was first approved in 1986. It is for all transportation projects in Alameda County. It was reauthorized in 2000. Projects to receive funding are listed as part of the ballot measure. The goal is to have BART to Livermore listed, so that the funding would be available for the extension. A specific project must be described so that voters know how the funds are to be spent.)

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Local Congressmen Support Obama's Jobs Bill

The Valley's three congressional representatives saw things they liked in President Obama's economic stimulus package speech.

Obama proposed a \$447 billion package to Congress on Sept. 8 that he said would put more Americans back to work.

There would be a combination of payroll and employee tax cuts along with employer tax credits of \$4000 for each new worker hired who has been job-seeking for more than six months.

The package also includes money for school construction and public works projects. In addition, there are funds to create more teaching jobs, which would be a respite for districts that have laid off teachers, or that want to save teaching jobs in the coming year.

Rep. John Garamendi, whose district includes Livermore, said, "There is much to admire in the American Jobs Act. The President addresses needed infrastructure by proposing policies to repair and modernize 35,000 schools and by supporting a desperately needed Infrastructure Bank that leverages public and private investments."

Garamendi also likes the

\$4000 tax credit to employers hiring unemployed workers. Extending unemployment benefits for another year will help recipients not only have an income, but also be able to job training to improve their employment chances, he added.

Rep. Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton, who like the other two representatives is a Democrat, said, "I am glad the President is finally focused on job creation."

"Obama's proposals seem to contain some very positive elements that could make a significant difference. Far too many families continue to struggle because of the economic downturn. I'm committed to fighting for job creation plans that work and have bipartisan support," said McNerney.

"I will keep pushing for policies that help small businesses thrive, close tax loopholes that send jobs overseas, and help families make ends meet," he declared.

Rep. Pete Stark, who represents Sunol and a part of south Pleasanton, said that Obama is on the right track in cutting the national debt by creating more jobs, instead of cutting Medicare,

Medicaid, and Social Security. Extending unemployment insurance will help stimulate the economy while helping families meet their bills, said Stark.

Stark also likes the money that would keep teachers in classrooms, fund classroom construction, and help transportation systems. That money will help improve safety and competitiveness, he stated.

"Job creation is a potent form of deficit reduction. I urge the Super Committee, tasked with slashing our deficit, to focus on this critical tool," said Stark.

On Tuesday, in a telephone conference from Washington to Northern California reporters, Garamendi elaborated on some of his earlier statements, which were made before Obama's bill arrived in the House.

Garamendi said that the jobs bill will have significant effect on 710,000 small firms in California, which can result in \$150,000 of reduced tax at a small business that would have to pay \$5 million in wages.

That tax reduction for small businesses is in the payroll tax cut proposal, which also would save \$1500 for a family earning

\$50,000 per year, said Garamendi.

Garamendi said that an estimated 37,300 teachers in California would be able to keep their jobs. The bill's money would be slated for districts that have high enrollment of Title I low-income students.

Money for retrofitting and upgrading schools would also go to those districts serving a higher proportion of lower income families' children.

With as many as 1 million Californians out of work, the unemployment features of Obama's proposal are important. One aspect of it is that unemployment money could be used to supplement a person already working part-time, with the idea of bringing up the income level, said Garamendi.

"The legislation is looking at that kind of creative new way to deal with unemployment," said Garamendi.

States have been given a chance in the legislation to design such a program, if they choose, he said.

Garamendi also fleshed out details of the infrastructure bank mentioned in Obama's plan. The

federal government could borrow money, lend it at a low rate, "and still have a classic banking operation in which projects such as sanitation, bridges, and water systems can raise money," he said.

Garamendi pointed out that people in his district who are contemplating a \$400 million project, because they are out of water capacity, approached him. That's a situation where the project will have revenue from water users, and can pay back loans from such an infrastructure bank, said Garamendi.

CALPERS and the California State Teachers Retirement System could be investors in such a bank, as could the private sector, said Garamendi.

Garamendi also backed Obama's call to close tax loopholes for the very wealthy and oil companies. The top four oil firms have made a profit of \$27 billion

this year, thanks to tax breaks that have been in place for a 100 years, said Garamendi.

Stark also issued more comment on the jobs bill on Tuesday, after census data were released showing, "We've now reached the highest poverty rate in 17 years. If that's not a clear indication that Congress needs to create jobs to jump-start the economy, I don't know what is."

Despite the rise in poverty rate, Stark found a silver lining in the census report. More young adults are obtaining health insurance under the health care law enacted last year.

As a result, parents and their adult children are "at significantly less financial risk in the case of an illness or accident. Full implementation of the health reform will continue to lessen Americans' risk of financial ruin because of a lack of coverage," said Stark.

Stark Says Health Care Act Saves Money on Drugs

The health care reform bill passed by the last session of Congress is having real, beneficial effects on seniors and people with disabilities, according to Rep. Pete Stark.

Stark issued a statement after the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a report Sept. 8 showing that 1.3 million people with traditional Medicare have received a 50 percent discount on their brand name prescription drugs so far this year because of the Affordable Care Act.

Nearly 19 million people with traditional Medicare have received one or more free preventive services because of the new law, said Stark.

Stark, whose 13th District

includes Sunol and part of Pleasanton, said, "The data reflect the very meaningful impact that health reform is having on the health and the pocketbooks of seniors and people with disabilities in Medicare."

Stark said that the numbers are an answer to those in Congress who call for the act's repeal.

Stark said that Californians' relief has amounted to an average of \$500 per person in the first six months of the year.

"Reform is also helping improve millions of beneficiaries' health with preventive care and wellness visits at no cost, which is a boon to those individuals and also to the healthcare system overall," he added.

Pleasanton Walgreen Continues to Sell Clipper Cards

By Ron McNicol

BART paper tickets will still be available through 2012, a more definite date than reported earlier.

Further, the Walgreen store in Pleasanton is continuing to sell Clipper Cards, the electronic successor to the paper tickets.

An earlier story, which quoted a Walgreen representative who said the store discontinued sales, was not correct, according to the store's assistant manager, Zab Anwar. "We may have been out at the time, but we are still selling Clipper Cards," he said.

BART spokesman Jim Allison confirmed that paper ticket sales will continue to the end of next year. It was the firmest statement to date about the time frame for phasing out the paper tickets.

Raley's in Pleasanton has discontinued paper ticket sales. The senior center in Pleasanton is selling off its remaining supply.

However, Safeway stores in the Bay Area continue to sell the paper tickets, said a spokesman for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). He did not have a list of the stores, so it was not possible to confirm whether Valley stores sell them.

A call to a spokesperson at Safeway was not returned in time for deadline.

NO CLIPPER SALES AT VALLEY STATIONS

Walgreen on Santa Rita Road will be the only place in the Valley where Clipper Cards can be purchased, at least for the time being. As more transit agencies in the East Bay use the cards, for example Wheels bus service in the Valley, the more locations east of the hills will sell them, said a Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) spokesman.

Most Valley Clipper Cards are used by BART riders. They have access to the two BART stations

selling tickets, at Lake Merritt and Embarcadero, said spokesman Randy Rentschler.

Valley BART stations do not sell the Clipper Cards. Riders can only add value to the cards at local stations, said Jacob Avidon, senior program coordinator for MTC.

A contractor called "My Transit Place" has Clipper sales kiosks at some BART stations. The closest location to the Valley is at the Bayfair station.

Seniors wanting to obtain their cards, which are discounted for BART at 62.5 percent, must apply in person at either Lake Merritt or the Embarcadero, for identity and age verification.

MTC will have events from time to time in different communities as a more convenient way to sign up seniors. There will be one from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 16 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

A Clipper Card improvement for seniors over the current paper cards is that seniors will be able to add value to the Clipper Card at all BART stations, and receive the 62.5 percent discount. Currently, if a senior needs to add fare, it's figured at the standard rate. A blue-stripe ticket is issued, not the senior discount green-stripe.

CARDS ARE FREE, BUT MOST NEED \$5 IN VALUE

Avidon cleared up a common misconception about Clipper Cards. Although most people pay \$5 to obtain the card, they are not paying for the card, only for the \$5 in transportation value, which is loaded onto the card, said Avidon. The \$5 is an MTC requirement for most riders.

The exceptions are seniors and people with disabilities. Seniors can obtain the card free, and not have to add monetary value at that time, said Avidon. MTC wanted to leave it up to seniors as to how much value they wanted

to put on cards.

For people with disabilities, the policies and fares are set by the Regional Transportation Connection (RTC), which is a contractor serving MTC. Spokespersons at MTC did not know the fare policy of RTC.

Valley disabled residents interested in obtaining help locally to apply for a Clipper Card can call Wheels at 455-7500 for assistance. Instruction can be provided over the phone, or an appointment can be set up to receive assistance at the office.

People with disabilities obtain their cards through a special contractor, Regional Transit Connections (RTC). Wheels transit planner Jeff Flynn said that people who qualify for the discount can call Wheels at 455-7500 for help with getting an application and filling it out. Wheels will send it on to MTC, which is working with RTC on the project, said Flynn.

NO CLIPPER CARDS YET ON WHEELS BUSES

Wheels buses don't have the new fare boxes that can read the Clipper Cards. However, Wheels drivers do recognize the senior cards as counting for a senior Wheels discount. The same is true for Clippers for people with disabilities.

The MTC commissioners voted Sept. 8 to equip ferry lines in the Bay over the next few months with the new fare boxes. The need is small, and can be accomplished quickly with money on hand.

Commissioners decided to continue a decision on whether East Bay transportation agencies, including Wheels, would be next in line for the new fare boxes. The alternative is to give them first to agencies in Napa and Solano counties.

Rentschler said the decision will be made in a few months.

AC Transit already uses Clip-



THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

Commission and Committee Recruitment

The City of Pleasanton invites you to apply for vacancies on the following commissions and committees:

- Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee - 1 At-large Youth Member
- Civic Arts Commission - 1 Alternate
- Economic Vitality Committee - 1 representative from each of the following categories:
 - Business Park
 - Commercial Real Estate Broker
 - Commercial Real Estate Developer
 - Professional Services Firm
 - Commercial Services Firm
 - Infrastructure
 - Medical Technology
- Energy and Environment Committee - 1 Member and 1 At-large Youth Member
- Library Commission - 1 Alternate
- Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee - 1 (Preschool) Parent at-large
1 (High School) Parent at-large

Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee
The City of Pleasanton formed a Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee to oversee the implementation of the Youth Master Plan. The Master Plan was adopted by the Pleasanton City Council and Pleasanton Unified School District in August 2010. The implementation of the Youth Master Plan falls under the responsibility of the Community Services Department. The Oversight Committee is made of up nine (9) members including; two (2) Youth Commissioners; one (1) Youth at large member in grade 6-12, one (1) non-profit youth organization member; one (1) business community representative and four (4) parent-at-large positions that have children who are either in pre-school, elementary, middle-school and high school. The Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee reports directly to the Youth Commission and meets 3-4 times a year to receive updates from staff, provide input and make recommendations to the Youth Commission regarding the implementation of the Youth Master Plan.

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) Citizens Advisory Committee
2 Pleasanton representatives

Altamont Landfill Committee Education Advisory Board
1 Pleasanton representative (Member should be a science, environmental education or vocational education teacher from the Pleasanton Public Schools and a resident of Alameda County)

Applications are available at the Office of the City Clerk, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcommapp.pdf>. For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, September 16, 2011. Postmarks are not accepted.

If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us

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SPORTS NOTES



The Pleasanton Rage U11 White team won the Silver bracket of the Santa Rosa Academy Cup over Labor Day weekend. After getting off to a slow start Saturday morning with a 0-0 draw with the Santa Rosa Typhoon, the U11 White got rolling into their next game with a 5-0 win over the California Northstars. The U11 White were led by Holly Judson with 2 goals, Abby Fried with 2 goals and Leila Shafi with 1 goal. The U11 White came back on Sunday with a Semi-final match against SSA - Celtic FC in what turned out to be the match of the tournament. The match was a back and forth affair but neither team was able to score. So the match went to penalty kicks. Goalie Allison Jenezon of the U11 White put on a clinic by diving and jumping to stop 4 of the 5 PK's that she faced. Rage midfielder Delaney Soble put the first U11 White penalty kick in the back of the net and was later followed by center back Allison Hunter who scored to the right of the Celtic FC goalie to give the U11 White a 2-1 edge. This win advanced the U11 White into the finals where they defeated the Tahuichi Girls from Santa Rosa 2-1. Lilly Fehrmann and Abby Fried scored in the 2nd half to give the U11 White the win. The U11 White defense only allowed 1 goal all weekend. The defense was led by Allison Hunter, Kiera Hegarty, Casey Cring, Quinn Lombardi and Addyson Mapes.



Livermore's West Coast Soccer Club, U10 Boys team played over the weekend, with good results. For the story, see Sports Notes.

Pleasanton Rage

Pleasanton Rage U19 D3 Orange opened their season on Sunday Sept. 11 notching a 2-0 win over visiting Mustang Rush. With consistent play and 28 shots on goal, Rage dominated throughout the game. Both scores came in the second half, with Mary Gruen netting one after the Mustang goalie could not hold Arielle Siegel's strong shot. Just a few minutes later, Madison Nethery added a second goal off a nice feed from Nicole Torquato, who also had a strong performance on defense. Goalie Carly Boehmer was forced to make several leaping saves to insure the shut out. Top Offensive Players: Mary Gruen, Madison Nethery, Amy Moore. Top Defensive Players: Carly Boehmer, Nichole Torquato, Taylor Lee.

Pleasanton Rage Grey U11 opened league play with a tie (0-0) against the Piedmont Soccer Club (PSC) Highlanders. In the first half of Saturday's home game, Karin McCarty and Emily Tincher each

took impressive shots on goal, but couldn't find the net. Tincher's twin sister, Mary, held off the Highlander strikers as Rage goalkeeper. The first half ended scoreless. Fired up from a half-time pep talk by coach Brittany Boehm, forwards Emily Esparza, Hannah Gossett, and Isabella Huyler pressed hard to keep the ball in the Highlanders' half of the field. Four minutes in, midfielder Eknoor Kaur took a corner kick, but Rage Grey was unable to convert for the point. The Highlanders were determined not to let Rage Grey continue to press, but their shots never found their target through strong defensive play by second-half goalie Isabella Clark, and defenders Julianna Pereira, Devyn Baldus, and Zoe Moura. With one minute left, Kaur kicked a long ball that hit the crossbar before bouncing out of bounds.

Rage U-10 Grey Division 3 played their opening day game at their home field against the MVU 01, coming away with a 3 to 2 victory. Carina Stacey scored all



The Patriots, made up of U9 players from Pleasanton Rage girls soccer team, walked in the Pleasanton Soccer Parade on Saturday, September 10. The parade is annual tradition in Pleasanton to kickoff the fall soccer season. Hundreds of proud parents lined Main Street to cheer on their boys and girls, and the soccer season start.

three goal for her first hat trick with her new team. The girls battled and played hard for their first victory of the Season. Top Offensive Players: Carina Stacey, Hannah Lurie, Drew Pagtakhan. Top Defensive Players: Emily Verbeck, Annika LaBerge Schusterman, Kendall Harris

Pleasanton Rage Black U10 Division 3 played the Delta United Soccer Club Magic in the first game, losing 2 to 0. Sophie Shibliq's 30-yard blast that clanked off the goal post epitomized the Rage's fortunes in its U10 Girls Bronze East league-opening loss to the Delta United Soccer Club Magic on Sunday. Still, Pleasanton's 2-0 defeat in Antioch couldn't erase some strong performances, particularly from Julia Damiani, Lydia O'Brien and Shibliq, who helped the Rage carry the play for much of the game. Natalie Maravillas punctuated a sluggish Rage start by twice getting loose for breakaways and converting them into the game's only two goals. Maravillas' first

goal, a connection from 16 yards just four minutes into the game, quickly helped the Magic forget a 3-0 league-opening loss to the Mustang Angels a day earlier.

Shibliq nearly sliced into the Rage's deficit on a second-half free kick that caromed off the near post. She had four of Pleasanton's nine shots on goal, including three during a second-half flurry that also saw shots from Samantha Lipsker and Lacy Becker get thwarted by Magic goalie Chloe Imrizek-Kawalkowski. Amanda Dilger came out of the net, where she had four first-half saves, to provide some energy and crisp passes in the second half. Aggressive play from Olivia Martinez-Murphy and Andrea Harding also helped the Rage. Strong backline play from Paige Oniki, Damiani and Shibliq helped cut off the few second-half charges by the Magic, and made things easier in goal for Kelly Meyrath, who still managed to make two solid saves. Top Defensive Players: Julia Damiani, Paige Oniki, Andrea Harding.

What Our Readers Are Saying...



The Independent Newspaper's dedication to covering local events in our valley is a tremendous resource for our communities. As a Livermore Valley Rotarian, their support of our efforts to raise awareness and money for our schools and non-profit organizations in Livermore helps to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives here.

Dave Bedford
Livermore Resident

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SPORTS NOTES



Dublin Diamonds enjoy a post game snack following two wins over the weekend. Pictured are (from left) Taylor Green, Celina Garcia, Makenna Toney, Vanessa von Sosen, Katie DeMillo, Holly McRitchie, Kayla Grisham, Sophie Bueno, Raquel Espinosa, and Luciana Garcia. For the story, see Sports Notes.



The 12B Mavericks fastpitch softball team dominated the 12U division in the "Rock and Roll" tournament held in Modesto, CA, on September 10-11, 2011. The Mavericks won all of their games (5-0), scoring 54 runs and allowing only 5. The temperatures were as hot as their bats, but they did not let that deter them as they took the first-place championship title. The Mavericks are (first row from left) Katie Lucas, Mia Niklewicz, Amber Rice, Robyn Dobson, and Mallory Jones; (back row from left) Coach John Niklewicz, Coach Tim Waters, Natalie Waters, Shelby Rocereto, Jordan Maddox, Tea Stephenson, Erica Espinosa, and Manager Greg Dobson. Not pictured are Jamie Wittmer and Maggie Kilday.



The Level 5 girls at Edge Gymnastics brought home the first place team trophy. For the details, see Sports Notes.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Under-10 teams from West Coast Soccer and Livermore Fusion battled it out on opening day of the soccer season in the Valley.

Top Offensive Players: Sophie Shibliq, Lydia O'Brien, Samantha Lipsker

Rage U14 Gray defeated the U14 Black in the opening weekend. Goalie, Bridget Moe fended off several goal attempts to keep the Gray team to just 1 goal. Offensive player, Loren Roundtree and defensive player, Ali Jackson worked very hard to keep the point spread to a minimum. A great first game effort by U14 Black.

Livermore Fusion

U7 Boys Livermore Fusion SC: Cannonballs vs. Dragons: Top players Canonballs: Austin Araya and Trevor Olmo on offense. Trevor Olmo and Davis Carr on defense. Top players Dragons: Kyle Denton and J.J. Mitchell on offense. Shane Pollard and Ryan Gill on defense.

Dublin Diamonds

On September 9 and 10, the Dublin Diamonds started out strong winning both of their league games. On Saturday, the Diamonds traveled to Berkeley to play the ACC Mavericks Galaxy. Holly McRitchie started off the scoring by gently tapping the ball into the goal off a pass. Sophie Bueno followed that with a far shot from the right side into the top corner of the goal. Kayla Grisham took a turn at the goal scoring with a strong kick from outside the box. Forward Makenna Toney forced the ball up the field many times and took some nice shots at the goal. Celina Garcia, Raquel Espinosa, Vanessa von Sosen, Luciana Garcia, Katie DeMillo and Taylor Green played strong on defense and helped support the midfield and forwards. The Diamonds won this game 9-3 with Sophie scoring 4 goals, Kayla scoring 3 goals and Holly with 2.

The next day, the Diamonds continued their domination. At home, they played ACC Mavericks Thunderbolts. Holly McRitchie took a hard shot from the left side to start off the scoring. Sophie Bueno showed off her amazing dribbling skills by taking the ball past 3 players and shooting a nice shot into the corner of the goal. Defenders Raquel Espinosa, Celina Garcia, Luciana Garcia, and Katie DeMillo played very strong defense not

allowing the Thunderbolts to get the ball close to the goal in the first half. The Diamonds third goal was scored by Kayla Grisham, who took advantage of a short goal kick. Makenna Toney had some very close shots at the goal and also played strong defense. Taylor Green provided great passing support. Sophie Bueno and Kayla Grisham then each scored again. Rounding out the scoring was Vanessa von Sosen. She received a pass from Holly McRitchie and then Vanessa von Sosen with determination forced the ball into the goal after the goalie lost control of it. The Diamonds won this game 6-0.

West Coast Soccer

On Saturday, the West Coast Wolves, U10 Boys, started their league play with a strong win. The team found the back of the net eight times and held their opponent, Mission Valley United, to only one goal. Matty Crivello earned a hat-trick by scoring three goals in the first half. Other goals and assists were from Zachary Rittmann, Ricardino Alvarez, James Renouf, Trent Crisp, and Bradley Rittmann. The Wolves' midfield was solid with footwork and ball control provided by Eddie Topete and Douglas Wynne, and the defense was outstanding - led by Logan Hartrum and Zach Hollingshaus in the goal.

On Sunday, just prior to kick off, a moment of silence was observed to honor and remember those who lost their lives during the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. The Wolves seemed ready to play against a strong and physical San Ramon team, with several attempts on goal early in the first half. However, San Ramon was able to get through the Wolves' defense to score two early goals. Within the first 15 minutes of the half, the San Ramon team scored two more times, now leading 4-0. The Wolves, feeling a bit discouraged, kept battling and with just six minutes remaining in the first half, Bradley Rittmann blasted a shot from 25 yards out - the shot tipped off the San Ramon goalie's fingers and into the net. The Wolves received some specific advice at halftime from Coach Lauren Pennisi and Asst. Coach Dave Tinoco.

tory. The Saints got on the board in the first quarter when Bryce Disbrow picked off a pass and returned it to the Steelers 5 yard line. Two plays later, Ryan Silva scored from a yard out behind the blocking of Alexander Szostak and Donovan Winters to give the Saints a 6 - 0 lead. The Saints defense was able to force the Steelers to a turnover on downs by stopping an 8 play drive by the solid play of linebackers Bobby Woods and Jonathan Stalie. On the Saints next possession, the Steelers Aaron Andrews forced a fumble on the Saints 15 Yard line. The Steelers did not take much time to score, as Quarterback Jason Frost threw a perfect pass to a wide open Gerardo Rogue for 15 yard touchdown to tie the score at 6 - 6. The Saints were able to get on the scoreboard again, as Brandon Brocklesby hit a streaking Truman Griffeth for a 45 yard touchdown pass to give the Saints a 12 - 6 lead. The lead would not last long, as on the kickoff, the Steelers Rogue took the short kick and ran un-touched for the score. Ben Parkers extra point made the score 14 - 12 in favor of the Steelers. Two possessions later, the Steelers put the game away for good with another Frost to Rogue touchdown pass of 48 yards. The Saints defense played well despite the loss. Joshua Gibson, Disbrow, and Austin Breiz, all had good games defensively.

The Saints started the game off with a touchdown within the first few minutes of the first quarter. The Steelers weren't about to let this get them down. Ben Parker ran the ball approximately 20 yards and gained the first down. In the first quarter, Eric Pinon, recovered a fumble which helped change the path of the game. Quarterback Jason Frost made an excellent pass to Jerry Rogue who found a hole and used his speed to bring the ball to the one yard line. Ben Parker was able to bring the ball across the line to score the Steelers first touch down. Clayton Bailey and Stephen Mohler along with the rest of the defense was on fire, making several key tackles that prevented the Saints' offense from gaining yards. Aaron Andrews and Christian Mohler were relentless in breaking through the Saints' offense and putting pressure on the Saints' quarterback. This caused the Saints to throw away several passes. Austin Brown received the ball on the kick off and zig zagged his way through the Saints for a 15 yard return. Later in the game Jerry Rogue received the kick off ball on the 45 yard line and ran it in for a touchdown. Ben Parker forced in the conversion. In the end, the Steelers were able to steal this game away from the Saints.

Packers 20, Giants 20: The first senior level game of the year ended in a tie. Giants 20 Packers 20. The Packers won the toss and chose to receive the ball. The Packers came out with a strong running game that resulted in a touchdown and converted on the extra point giving the Packers a 7-0 lead. Following that the Packers kicked off to the Giants and they took possession on the 18 yard line. On the Giants first play from scrimmage Ian Barnes got the handoff off tackle and hit the outside and ran it for 82 yards for the score. The Giants were unsuccessful on their extra point try making it 7-6 Packers advantage. Again, on their next possession the Packers pounded the ball on the ground to another TD, this time the Giants stopped extra point conversion making it 13-6 Packers. On their second possession the Giants pounded the run game behind

Ian Barnes and Dillon Marks. Finally, Ian Barnes posted his second TD of the day on a run around the right side; he also punched in the extra point making it a 13-13 tie. On the Packers 3rd possession they again took it to the house collecting their 3rd touchdown of the day and extra point making it 20-13. The half ended with Packers sitting on a 7-point advantage.

It was clear that if the Giants were to be victorious their defense would have to step up in the second half. Behind the senior leadership of linebackers, Scott Plantenga, Luke Dangler and Dylan Guillin. Defensive ends Basim Elmashni, and Robby Twesten they shutdown the Packers in the second half. Making his presence felt on his debut performance was safety Garret Vest. When it counted most Robby Twesten came up big with 2 big QB sacks.

The Giants offense was not going to be out done; they came out firing on all cylinders in the second half. On the second offensive play of the second half Dillon Marks broke for 60 yards for the Giants. Ian Barnes collects the extra point making it a 20-20 tie. Ian Barnes had 7 carries for 149 yards, 2 TDs, and 3 extra point conversions. Dillon Marks had 6 carries for 125 yards, 1TD. Rounding of a solid offensive performance for the Giants was QB, Jordan Mello who was 5 completions on 8 attempts. His favorite target for the day was TE, Tai Phan. None of the offense success would have been possible without a great blocking performance by David Harmison, Vance Lankford, Brett Bernstein, Mario Rodriguez, and Julian Chavira.

Intermediate Division: 49ers 6, Ravens 0: The season opener proved to be successful for the 49ers with a 6-0 win over the Ravens. The 49er offense was strong from the start scoring in the 2nd quarter with a pass by Luke Morrisroe to Jacob Murdoch for a 45-yard touchdown. The defensive team held off the Ravens with close-call tackles made by Dreacon Baca and Lucas Montenegro. As the 49ers worked hard to hold off the Ravens, Matthew Stepank made a sensational interception to stop the Ravens' 4th quarter drive. In the final Raven drive of the game, Matthew Hayes made a key tackle with only 30 seconds left in the game.

Dolphins 12, Falcons 0

Junior Division: Raiders 18, Bucs 8: The Raiders opened their season with a win over the Bucs 19 to 8. The Raiders got their first score during their second possession with a 50 yard run for a touchdown by their quarterback Jaxen McLaren with Joe Doughty converting the extra point. The Raider's second score came from a 7 yard throw by Jaxen McLaren to Tyler Ferrick for another long run into the end zone but failed to convert the extra point. The Raider's defense played strong with Logan Church, D'Cy Ashford, and Duncan Maloney making key tackles causing the Bucs to lose yards and stall their drive. The Bucs were threatening to score late in the 2nd quarter and were within the Raider's 10 yard line, but the Raider's defense put on an impressive goal line stand forcing the Bucs to turn over the ball on downs. In the 3rd quarter the Raiders were back for another touchdown pass and run combination between Jaxen McLaren and Tyler Ferrick. Late in the 4th quarter, Elijah Nuddelman made a touchdown saving tackle stopping the Buccaneer's drive and securing a Raider victory.

The Bucs' defense came on strong with Hunter Kronmal and Julian Quigley going after the Raiders QB. The Bucs' offensive line (Jacob Burk and Joseph Jonas) had

the difficult job of holding back the Raider defense to give Bucs QB (Cameron Stephenson) time to make the play.

Vikings 50, Texans 39: Vikings were led by Zach Sandoval with a touchdown, Ian Holmes with a tackle, Colton Downs with several tackles & defensive plays, and Jose Dominguez with a touchdown.

Edge Gymnastics

The Level 5 girls at Edge Gymnastics competed this weekend on 9/10/11 at the River City Classic at Byers Gymnastics in Elk Grove, CA, taking home the 1st place team trophy with a score of 111.425.

Michella Diebenow took first place in the all-around with a score of 37.3, including 2nd on vault with a score of 8.875, 3rd on bars 9.35, 2nd on beam 9.625, and 1st on floor 9.45. Sydney Foon took 3rd place in the all-around with a score of 36.875, including 1st on beam 9.675, a tie for 2nd on floor 9.25, and a tie for 3rd on vault 8.8.

Amanda Chau took 2nd place in the all-around with a score of 36.5, including 2nd on bars 9.45, and 2nd on beam 9.325. Emily Reed took 3rd place in the all-around with a score of 35.9, including 2nd on floor 9.05, 3rd on vault 9.05, and 3rd on bars 9.325. Emily DeVane tied for 3rd place in the all-around in her age bracket with a score of 35.7, including 3rd place on floor 9.1.

Other notable scores include Lianna Quick with a first place score on beam of 9.375, Shreya Venkattram with 2nd place on vault 8.9 and 3rd place on beam 9.35, Tatum Laird with 3rd place on vault 8.85, and Brooke Saunders 3rd place on beam 9.1.

Scholarship Run

The 16th annual Back to School Scholarship Run will be held on Saturday, September 17, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. This end-of-the-summer run is sponsored by the Northern California Association of Sales & Marketing Companies.

The Scholarship Run raises funds for college scholarships that are offered to children of parents who work in the California food industry. This special event is well known for its famous Monster Goody Bag, given to each participant (First 300 entrants guaranteed. First come, first served after that). The Monster Goody Bags are overfilled with grocery items provided by more than 40 sponsors. This special door prize is worth more than the event's entry fee!

The Back to School Scholarship Run features three races, with courses running through the park and the park's trails: 10K Run, 5K Run & Walk, and a Children's Mile. The 10K Race and 5K Walk & Run

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Livermore Jr. Football
Livermore Junior Football League highlights from last week include:
Senior Division: Steelers 19, Saints 12: The Steelers and Saints squared off in the opening game of the Livermore Junior Football league senior division, with the Steelers going home with a 19 - 12 vic-

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Pictured are Ballistic teams, the Tigers (top left) and Crocodiles (lower left); Rage teams, Daffodils (upper right) and Meadowlarks (lower right).

Photos - Doug Jorgensen

SPORTS NOTES

courses are made up of small rolling-hill trails that run throughout the scenic Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. The Children's Mile course is laid out through a portion of the park's lawn area.

Each participant will receive a commemorative T-shirt, refreshments, snacks, entry into a huge prize raffle, and the first 300 registered entrants will be guaranteed to receive the famous Back to School Scholarship Run's Monster Goodie Bag.

Entry fees for either the 10K Run or 5K Walk/Run are \$30.00 pre-registered, \$35.00 race-day registration. The Children's Mile Run is \$10.00 pre-registered, and \$12.00 race-day registration. Check-in and race-day registration will open at 7:00 a.m., with both 10K and 5K events will start at 8:30 a.m. The Children's Mile will begin around 9:30 a.m. The post-race awards, raffle, and prize give-away ceremony is scheduled to start around 10:00 a.m.

For more Back to School Scholarship Run information and/or an application, contact On Your Mark Race Events at

209-795-7832, or visit their website. Participants can register online at Active.com.

Golf Tournament

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO Basketball program invites all golfers to join in the fun at the 1st Annual CYO Golf Tournament to be held Friday, September 16, 2011, at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. A shotgun start will begin at 1:00 p.m. Fee of \$120.00 per player includes a banquet dinner; dinner only guests - \$35.00. Sponsors are needed as well as per hole contests. Looking for foursomes or match up that day. For more information, please contact Norma Jean via email at njfomind@yahoo.com.

This fundraising effort will help to reduce fees and provide scholarship funds for young athletes participating in Livermore's Catholic Youth Organization Basketball program this fall.

Bocce Kits for Rent

Following the debut of two new bocce courts at the freshly renovated Bothwell Park, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is now making bocce ball kits available for rent to the public.

Bocce ball kits can be checked out for a week at a time from the Robert Livermore Community Center. The kits are available at the front counter from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rental for one week is \$20, plus a \$40 refundable deposit by credit card or cash - a total of \$60. The \$40 deposit is refundable if equipment is returned in good condition. Kits are rented on a first-come, first-served basis; reservations are not available in advance. Rental of a bocce ball kit does not guarantee a bocce ball court will be available.

The Robert Livermore Community Center is located at 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Bothwell Park is located at 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. For more information, call 925-373-5700.

Tri-For-Real Triathlon

The 24th season On Your Mark Event's Tri-For-Real Triathlon Series will conclude with the traditional Tri-For-Real Triathlon, Sunday, September 18, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, in Pleasanton.

The Tri-For-Real triathlon, as like past seasons, follows this year's three Tri-For-Fun triathlons (the past three "Fun" non-timed and shorter-distance triathlons were held June-August). Utilizing the lake and rolling hills of Shadow Cliffs Park and the paved roads running through Pleasanton and Livermore, the timed "Real" course distance is extended to a 700-yard swim (warm, clean lake), 18-mile bike (loop course, flat surface), and 4-mile run (rolling dirt trails).

Carved soapstone trophies will go to the top male and female finishers. Beautiful glass trophies will be given to the top male and female Masters (over 45-years old) winners. In addition, medals are given three deep in designated age groups for

both male and female participants.

Entry fee is \$75.00 in advance, and \$85.00 race day, individual, and \$210.00 in advance, and \$240.00, race day, relay teams. Along with the awards ceremony, participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, after-race snacks, and entry into a huge after-race raffle.

Don't forget to bring your mandatory swim cap, ANSI approved bike helmet, and, of course, your bike.

To register or to receive more information about On Your Mark Events' Tri-For-Real Triathlon, call 209-795-7832 or visit their Website at www.onyourmarkevents.com. Interested participants can either download an application and then mail in, or register online at Active.com.

Race to the Flagpole

The Livermore-Granada Boosters will host the 2nd annual "Race to the Flagpole" on Veteran's Day weekend, Saturday, November 12, 2011. The one mile race will go through downtown Livermore, starting on Third Street and finishing at Livermore's original flagpole in Carnegie Park. This event is open to all ages and abilities and will encourage awareness and appreciation for fitness and community pride.

All proceeds will support the Livermore-Granada scholarship program. Since 1958, the Boosters have awarded more than \$199,000 in scholarships. This

year \$26,000 needs to be raised in order to continue this tradition.

Race-day registration will begin at 7 a.m. at Carnegie Park in downtown Livermore. The race will be divided into age groups. The first age group will start at 8:30 a.m. Advance registration fees are \$10 for kids ages 10 and under and \$15 for ages 11 and up. On race day, all registration fees will be \$5 higher.

Every participant will receive a commemorative T-shirt. Awards will be given to the top finishers in each age division. All schools in Livermore will have a chance to compete for a participation award. The school with the most participants will receive a \$250 cash donation for their school. There will be an awards ceremony and a tribute to our veterans and flag.

For more information, visit www.livermoregranadaboosters.org. Application forms can be downloaded or registration can be made online. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Please contact Mike Nagel, Race Director, at 925-667-6535 or email flagpolerace@yahoo.com.

Golf Tourney

Dublin will host the 4th Annual Community Golf Tournament on September 21.

The cost is only \$50 for green fees plus a chicken & ribs buffet dinner for those 50 years of age and older. The cost

is \$90 for those under 50 years of age. Compared to most tournaments this is an outstanding value.

The format is scramble/best ball. There are special competitions for putting, longest drive, closest to the pin and a hole-in-one (win a Toyota Tacoma). Enter as a foursome or individually and you will be placed on a team.

Contact Rich Jochner at rich.jochner@dublin.ca.gov or (925) 556-4500 to enter.

Moneyball Screening a Benefit for Rotary

Enjoy a fun family evening Monday, September 26 in downtown Livermore. Join the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley and Livermore Cinemas for movie night. See the "Oakland A's" movie of the year, Moneyball (with Brad Pitt and Seymour Hoffman), get one complimentary beer, wine or soda and of course popcorn, all for just \$20.

This is a fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley to help in their many community projects for this year. This fun family night out will help us support such programs like the "Every 15 Minutes" program, Livermore Schools 3rd grade dictionary program, vocational and educational scholarships for local students, Las Positas College Veterans Club and much more.

Doors open a 7pm and the movie starts at 7:30 September 26 at Livermore Cinemas (corner of First St and Railroad Ave.). For tickets or more information please contact Anne Wilburn at 925.449.4650 or 925.200.2801.

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DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG13) DLP	12:35	2:45	5:00	7:20	9:30			
DRIVE (R) DLP		12:00	2:20	4:40	7:00	9:35		
STRAW DOGS (R) DLP			1:30	4:25	7:15	9:50		
CONTAGION (PG13) DLP	12:10	1:00	3:45	4:30	6:10	7:10	8:30	9:40
WARRIOR (PG13) DLP D-BOX				12:30	3:30	6:30	9:45	
THE DEBT (R) DLP				12:40	3:50	6:55	9:40	
THE HELP (PG13) DLP				11:45	2:55	6:15	9:20	
CRAZY STUPID LOVE (PG13) DLP				1:15	4:10	6:45	9:30	
APOLLO 18 (PG13) DLP				12:15	2:30	7:15	9:50	
COWBOYS & ALIENS (PG13) DLP						4:00	9:00	
RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (PG13) DLP						1:20	7:45	
BUCKY LARSON: BORN TO BE A STAR (R) DLP							4:55	
SHARK NIGHT (PG13) DLP							8:00	

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SHORT NOTES

Harvest Birds

Harvest Birds is the topic of the program presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sun., Sept. 18.

Meet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 8 a.m. at the Sycamore Grove Arroyo Rd. entrance (5049 Arroyo Road).

For several weeks now the birds have sensed the days getting shorter and the coming of the cooler, shorter days of autumn. Some of them are preparing for the rigors of migration. Look to see what winter birds are already here and what summer birds have yet to leave. Perhaps catch a glimpse of migrating birds on their journeys to warmer climes. If you have binoculars or field guides, please bring them.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at both entrances to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Free College Workshops

On Tuesday, October 4, 2011, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm, in the Storytime Room of the Livermore Public Library, Civic Center, a Kaplan representative will be on hand to answer financial aid questions and provide helpful hints for those tough college entrance exam essays.

The Paying for College Workshop, from 6:30pm to 7:00pm, will include the basics of applying for financial aid, important dates and terminology, how financial need is determined, and the difference between various award types.

In the SAT or ACT Essay Writing Workshop, from 7:00pm to 8:00pm, students begin by writing a practice essay under timed, test-like conditions. They get advice to help them recognize what essay graders are looking for, as well as strategies on writing effective essays. Students will receive their graded essays in

the mail.

Parents are also invited to attend both workshops. Students must register on the Kaplan website: <http://www.kaptest.com/enroll/SAT/94550/events>.

For questions or more information, please call Sandy at 925-373-5500 ext. 5583, or visit the library website: www.livermorelibrary.net.

Hikes Offered

Volcanoes in Clayton? is the walk planned by Save Mount Diablo for Sat., Sept. 17, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Disguised by a canopy of dense oak woodland a number of volcanic domes are hidden in plain sight. Save Mount Diablo recently acquired a 7-acre property on Marsh Creek Rd. that turned out to be composed of ryodacite, a type of volcanic rock formed when rising magma cools in two stages. Further investigation showed that a series of these volcanic rock formations are found in the Marsh Creek -Morgan Territory area. SMD's dome is steep, rugged and covered in poison oak but we'll be leading a hike around a similar more easily accessible volcanic dome in Perkins Canyon, Mount Diablo State Park. Rare plants, great views and fascinating geology make this a great 2 mile, 350" elevation gain hike, not to mention an amazing creek, historic rock dams and lot of history. R.S.V.P. Requested to: smdinfo@SaveMountDiablo.org.

The leader is Seth Adams, (925) 947-3535. Meet at the Clayton park-ride located at the corner of Peacock Creek Dr and Clayton Rd in Clayton. Bring plenty of water, wear a hat and sunscreen.

HERITAGE TREE HIKE: Grandparent's Day and Heritage Tree Hike is planned on Mangini Ranch for Sunday, September 18, 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Join Julie Seelen, Save Mount

Diablo's Advancement Director, on a Grandparent's Day hike through spectacular Mangini Ranch. Closed to the public, Save Mount Diablo's 208-acre property includes the headwaters of Galindo Creek with rolling grasslands, oaks, buckeyes, and a rare desert olive grove. Keep your eyes out for bobcats and coyotes looking for breakfast, plus burrowing owls, quail, and many other feathered friends. This is a two hour, four mile hike with one moderately strenuous hill. The length and course may be altered based on weather.

Mangini Ranch is home to the Heritage Tree program. Please RSVP to Julie at jtseelen@savemountdiablo.org.

Meet at SMD's Mangini Ranch. From Ygnacio Valley Rd head south on Crystall Ranch Dr. in Concord. We'll meet at the hiker gate on Crystall Ranch Dr between Autumn Oak Cir and Rolling Woods Way. Bring plenty of water, wear a hat and sunscreen. Optional - bring a picnic lunch to enjoy after the hike.

Fun with Science

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is holding two Saturday sessions of its popular "Fun with Science" show on Sept. 17.

The first session will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon, the second from 12:20 to 2 p.m.

Designed for children at the fifth grade level (though it can also be enjoyed by children younger and older), the free program is intended to spark children's interest in science through entertaining demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Fun with Science is held at the Discovery Center at LLNL (located off Greenville Road on Eastgate Drive, in an open area at the Laboratory. No badging is required.)

Space is limited. Children must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Registration is required; call 423-3272 or send an e-mail to superscience@llnl.gov

New Year Event

In preparation for the Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashanah - mothers and daughter teams will gather in Pleasanton to bake traditional round challah breads on Wednesday, September 21. Sponsored by Chabad of the Tri Valley's Jewish Women's Circle, the mother/daughter challah bake will not only give an opportunity for ladies in the community to bake challah, it will also encourage everyone to bake one extra loaf and share with someone else; thus sharing the joy and warmth of the New Year.

"All year long challah is braided, but it is traditionally round for Rosh Hashanah," explained Fruma Resnick, the director of Chabad's Jewish Women's Circle. The roundness represents the cyclical nature of the year. It also carries the shape of a crown. For on the New Year we accept God as our king.

"It is our hope that the good feelings generated by sharing these 'loaves of love' will continue throughout the year," said Mrs. Resnick.

The 48-hour Jewish New Year begins on the evening of Wednesday, September 28. Chabad offers full holiday services that are open to the community. Information can be obtained at www.JewishTriValley.com.

Infant Sleep Workshop

Happy ZZz's & World School of Massage will host a free workshop on infant sleep for parents on Mon., Sept. 19 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Topics include the following: How much sleep is enough. Why sleep is so important. What are the common problems. How to teach healthy sleep habits, and How to get more sleep for the whole family.

The workshop will be presented by Dr. Keller, Adjunct Professor and researcher on sleep at 699 Peters Ave., Pleasanton. The workshop is for parents of children 0-3 and expecting parents.

For more information please call

Revamped Harvest Festival at the Fairgrounds

The Pleasanton Harvest Festival®, happening September 16-18 at the Alameda Fairgrounds, is primarily known as an annual shopping haven. Customers will find that there is a lot more than just shopping at the event.

The Pleasanton Harvest Festival® has revamped its entertainment line-up and will feature a myriad of new acts. Those who prefer an upbeat and lively sound will be on their feet for the Bad Catz. Based out of the greater Sacramento area, the Bad Catz is an established band that features a wide variety of Rock, Rhythm and Blues music.

Also on the main stage will be the Fargo Brothers, who have been playing shows all over the country since 1979. Veterans of well over 3000 live shows, these four seasoned professionals deliver a brand of roots Rock and Roll with a fire and intensity that only three decades of playing together can bring.

There will be strolling entertainers like WC Willy, who will be wrangling all the kids in his cowboy costume and meandering the aisles on his gigantic stilts. Some of the other strolling performers include Derek the Mime, Big Mama Sue and Fast Eddie and new act, comedic juggler Derek Gunter.

The official charity of the Pleasanton Harvest Festival® is the Brentwood Liberty High School Cheer Squad, a non-profit youth cheer program.

The Harvest Festivals boast over 24,000 handmade arts and crafts, including jewelry, wood-turnings, art and photography, specialty foods, clothing, décor

and more. Attendees can interact directly with vendors, watch artist demonstrations, taste delicious foods and enter to win amazing prizes, such as the grand prize Americana quilt.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$9 adults, \$7 seniors (62+), \$4 youth (13-17); and 12 and under free. Tickets are valid for re-entry all weekend.

Call 800-346-1212 or visit www.harvestfestival.com for tickets and additional information.

FUNDS

(continued from page one)

ing to 103 families, homeowner education workshops to 82 families, and 23 families received individual budgeting and credit counseling in preparation for homeownership.

"We know the need of Tri-Valley residents and employees for homeowner education, counseling, loan modification assistance, and protection from scams perpetrated by mortgage 'rescue' companies has grown dramatically with the economic downturn. To meet this increasing need, the Center recently announced a campaign to raise \$1 million to fund additional homeowner services. We hope to supplement this HUD grant with contributions from Tri-Valley businesses and residents."

For further information on the TVHOC's mortgage modification counseling services and education programs call (925) 373-3130 or visit www.tvhoc.org.

OBITUARIES

Frank Fordyce: Orchid Pioneer Passes On

J. Frank Fordyce, age 87, passed peacefully into God's hands on August 17, 2011. A native Californian, he served his country in WW2 in the US Air Force and was shot down in the European



Theatre, becoming a POW for 16 months before his release in 1945.

Frank married his childhood sweetheart, Madge that same year. They celebrated 66 years together this past July. She is and always will be the love of his life.

His 2nd passion was orchids. He became a beloved fixture in the orchid world as hybridizer of extraordinary, ground breaking Cattleya Orchids. His career in Orchids spanned 61 years beginning at Stewarts Orchids in the 1940's, Frank Fordyce Orchids in the 60's, Orchid Manager of Acres of Orchids in the 70's, and finally Fordyce Orchids, (part of the Orchard Ranch in Livermore) from 1980 to 2006. From humble beginnings, he achieved greatness in his career. His achievements and awards are too numerous to list, but his greatest accomplishment was the legacy passed forward in the beauty he created breeding Orchids for generations to come, and in the friends and family he loved. Frank was a man of faith and loved God and his church.

Frank Fordyce is survived by his wife Madge, son Steve and Darlene Fordyce, daughter Sue Fordyce-Darden and son in law Ty Darden, granddaughter Sondra Bunting and two great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at Trinity Baptist Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore, CA on Sat., Sept. 17 at 1 p.m., with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial donation can be made to Disabled American Veterans, (www.dav.org)

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary

Sheryl Sweet

Sheryl Lloyd "Sam" Sweet was born in Livermore, CA, on September 7, 1924, to Charles and Ozeta Sweet. He lived a

fulfilling life, passing peacefully on September 2, 2011, just short

of his 87th birthday. He was gentle, kind and loving to all.

Sam served the country for 26 years in the Air Force during WW II, Korea and the early part of Vietnam, as a B-17 and B-29 navigator and computer systems analyst. Lt. Col. Sweet retired to Tucson in 1969, and never left. After retiring from the Air Force and postal service, Sam volunteered his time and talents for 22 years with Therapeutic Riding of Tucson. He was a member of the Sabbar Shrine and had earned his 32nd Masonic degree in Scottish Rite.

Sam is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Bonnie "BJ", sons Adrian (Lonna) of Ft. Worth, TX, Lloyd (Donna) of Tucson, daughter Gigi Malloy (Pat) of Lyons, CO, 7 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, 2 nephews and a niece. He was preceded in death by his brother, Malvern, and daughter, Clydell. Sam and BJ have been members of Christ Presbyterian church for 7 years.

A memorial was held during Sunday service at Christ Presbyterian on September 4, 2011.

Margaret Ellen Berge

Margaret Ellen Berge (1919-2011), passed away peacefully on the morning of September 6, 2011. Her children and granddaughter were by her side in Livermore, CA.

She is survived by her brother George, daughter Sharon and son-in-law Bill, son Steve and daughter-in-law Nancy, grandchildren Erik, Marit, Chris, Joe, Mike, Jenny and great grandchildren Kristen, Ella,

Bryce, Lyla and Finn.

Services for Margaret will be held in Chester, CA at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, September 16.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made to the Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Avenue Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568-3024.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

James W. Thomas

Livermore resident Jimmy T. passed away Aug 17, 2011 following a courageous battle with cancer. His loving family and friends were by his side.

Jim was born Sept. 4, 1936 in Klamath Falls, OR. He moved to Oakland in 1941 where he was raised. He graduated from Castle-mont High School in 1954, then joined the US Coast Guard to serve his country. Upon returning to Oakland he started his career as plumber, working out of Local 444 Plumber and Steamfitters union. In 1964 he moved his family to Livermore where he then started Plumbing by Thomas in 1972, servicing the Local community for 25 years before retiring. Not being one to sit around, he went back to work for a brief time with Walmart before finishing his career with Home Depot, sharing his plumbing expertise.

He is survived by his brother Wilbur Thomas, sons Glen, Kevin and Duane Thomas; stepsons Ron and Steve Freitas and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by parents Bill and Alice Thomas and wife Marge. A celebration of Jimmy's life will be held Sept. 15 from 6:00-8:00 at Eagles Hall, 609 N. Livermore Avenue, Livermore CA, where Jim was a proud member, and loved spending his spare time with friends.

His zest for life, generosity and caring for others, along with his outrageous sense of humor, will be missed by all.



In his own words " Jimmy T Has left the building, Pipe wrench in Tow....."

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Barbara Coulter Good

Barbara was born on 6/12/1916. She passed away peacefully 8/31/2011.

Born in Chicago to Lillian and Gilbert White, Barbara had a good life with one sister, Shirley and two brothers, Gilbert and Lindsey. She was active in her church as a child and adult, she sang in the choir and had parts in the church plays.

In 1955 she gave up her own nursery school in Chicago to find a new life in the Valley as a divorced woman with three children. Family, church, teaching, singing and helping others were Barbara's passions. She taught kindergarten in Livermore for 25 years. There she touched the lives of more than 1000 children in the beginning of their lives. Because she believed she was put on this earth to help others, she volunteered in many ways, such as; sing-alongs at the VA and nursing homes, chauffeur to persons distant doctor's appointments. Barbara was The Valley Volunteer Bureau's volunteer of the month in 1981.

She loved to travel and in the early years was camping most summers with her three children all over the United States. In retirement she bought a motor home and traveled for the most part of 15 years. Barbara had a long and good life. Admired, respected and loved, Barbara remains alive in our hearts and memories.

Barbara had three children Nancy, Roger and John, six grandchildren Danielle, Tim, Heather, Dilan, Kayla and Michelle and three great grandchildren Kylie, Shane and Susannah.

A service will be held Saturday, September 17 at 10:00 am at the Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore, Ca. 94550. Barbara asked that everyone please wear beautiful colors to the service to celebrate her life.

In lieu of gifts or flowers, donations may be made to Children's Hospital in Oakland in Barbara's honor.

Helena "Mom" Lamfers

Nov. 26, 1924 - Sept. 11, 2011

Helena "Mom" Lamfers was born in Alameda, CA. She lived in Livermore most of her life, where she attended St. Michael's grammar school and Livermore High School. She loved spending time with her family and gathering for the holidays.

Upon returning to Livermore in 1976 from the LA area, she was a single mother to four teenagers and worked tirelessly to provide a loving home, not only for her children, but for her "adopted" children as well. which is how she became known as "Mom Lamfers."

Helena worked at Rhodes Jamieson and then went to work at Livermore Recreation and Park District, where she retired after 20 years of service.

She was diagnosed with lung cancer, in July 2011, and spent the next year fighting a courageous battle, that finally took her from us.

She loved fishing, camping, playing the ponies, and playing the poker slot machines, whenever she could sneak away.

She passed away peacefully with family and friends holding her hands. She is survived by her siblings, Alice Ott, Anthony and Lawrence DeRosa and Karen Barnard; her children, Richard Rose, Donald, Anthony, Margie and Douglas Lamfers; her eight grandchildren, and six great grandchildren, as well as many other friends and relatives.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, Sept 18th from 5-8 PM, Rosary at 7PM at Callaghan Mortuary. Mass of Christian



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A Sandia-led team built two mobile facilities that are designed to measure greenhouse gases and other species so that they could be traced and identified. The system was deployed recently to the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) facility in Oklahoma. (Photo by Hope Michelsen)

Sandia Produces Mobile Facility That Can Identify Origin of Greenhouse Gases

Researchers at Sandia National Laboratories have designed and built a mobile research facility to trace and identify the origin of greenhouse gases.

In addition to pinpointing the chemicals' location, the unique mobile facility can help researchers learn whether the gases are biogenic (coming from plant sources) or anthropogenic (coming from man-made sources). This is important when officials look at ways to mitigate emission impacts in their communities, regions, or states.

"Information from this kind of facility should be useful to both researchers and policymakers," said Hope Michelsen, a combustion and atmospheric chemist at Sandia and one of the lead researchers on the project. "To figure out whether emissions reduction policies are effective, we need a way to measure emissions by emissions sector, such as power generation or transportation. We currently don't have the tools in place to do these types of measurements, so we hope our idea can be part of the solution."

The mobile system consists of two moving van-sized trucks, each equipped with instrumentation and equipment. Included are instruments that measure greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄), and species co-emitted with greenhouse gases, such as sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxide (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O₃), and other traditional pollutants.

"Elected officials who have enacted new policies to help reduce unwanted greenhouse gas emissions could conceivably find a mobile facility to be of great use," said Michelsen. "To figure out whether emissions reduction

policies are effective, we need a way to measure emissions by emissions sector, such as power generation or transportation," Michelsen continued. "We currently don't have the tools in place to do these types of measurements, so we hope our idea can be part of the solution."

While the instruments are all commercially available, another current project funded internally at Sandia aims to build an instrument to more accurately measure black carbon soot, formed through the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biofuels, and biomass. Black carbon soot is believed by atmospheric scientists to be one of the strongest absorbers of solar radiation.

Atop each truck sits an antenna-like mast that draws in air, sends it down into the truck, and distributes it to the various instruments, including a mass spectrometer that sorts out hydrocarbons and helps to distinguish between emission sources, which can range from traffic to pine trees.

A piece of equipment provided by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) captures samples in flasks for analysis at LLNL's Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry to measure the radiocarbon (14C) fractionation of CO₂ (14C is a radioactive isotope of carbon).

Because 14C is severely depleted in fossil fuels, it is a powerful indicator of man-made CO₂ sources. Some of these samples were also sent to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and to the University of California, Davis for further trace gas and isotopic analysis.

The mobile laboratory has already been deployed once to the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) facility in

Oklahoma. The ARM location in Oklahoma, said Sandia researcher Ray Bambha, was selected because of its solid history as a climate research site, and ARM instruments were used to validate some of the measurements from the mobile lab. Bambha served as the principal investigator for the field experiment, alongside several other Sandians serving in key roles. Collaborators from both LLNL and Los Alamos National Laboratory joined the Sandia team for portions of the Oklahoma deployment.

The pilot deployment, Bambha said, was successful in that the system collected large quantities of data, which are still in the process of being analyzed. It allowed the team to test instruments that hadn't been used previously, and it helped them to understand the atmospheric community's need for an "uncertainty quantification" capability — a method of assigning a confidence level to an estimate — and tracer measurements, which provide a more effective method for identifying the source of certain emissions. Michelsen said Sandia is in the process of building a team of researchers that can take the next step with the system and begin to use wind information and inverse modeling to more accurately identify emission sources.

In the short-term, Michelsen said, program development efforts are well under way in hopes of securing follow-on funding for other test deployments. The long-term vision for the program calls for a full network of mobile facilities that could be deployed strategically in select regions, states, or cities, to enable the capturing of a broad spectrum of emissions and related information.

include cultural competency and language barriers, access to medical care, homelessness, transportation issues, substance abuse, children's needs and daycare, senior needs, the needs of those with disabilities, AIDS awareness, prevention and services, and more. Participants will be asked to provide feedback on what they consider to be the unmet needs in the communities, where service gaps exist, and how those gaps could be effectively closed.

McNerney, Stark Comment On Solyndra Failure

The bankruptcy filing and abrupt closure of solar cell manufacturer Solyndra in Fremont brought comment from two of the Valley's congressional representatives.

Reps. Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton talked about the future of clean tech, and Pete Stark, whose district includes Solyndra's plant, and also part of Pleasanton, spoke about trying to obtain compensation for the laid-off workers.

Solyndra filed for bankruptcy, owing money on a \$527 million U.S. government loan and other debt to private financiers.

The bankruptcy resulted in the layoff of more than 1000 of the firm's 1179 employees in Fremont on Aug. 29.

McNerney, a veteran of the clean tech industry as an engineer and consultant, said that he doesn't expect that the bankruptcy will have a chilling effect on U.S. manufacture of the technology.

"I know from my firsthand experience that we can create many good jobs in the clean energy sector. We should learn lessons from this incident, but we should not stop working to create more clean energy jobs in America," said McNerney.

"The Solyndra bankruptcy is terrible for the company's employees and the taxpayers. This event underscores the need for strict oversight of federal programs," he added.

McNerney noted, "It is critical that Solyndra officials be held accountable for any illegal or improper activities." Also, Solyndra's employees deserve benefits as they look for new job opportunities.

STARK ASKS FIRM TO PROVIDE COMPENSATION

Stark sent a letter to Solyndra CEO Brian Harrison, calling on him to "provide compensation and benefits to its laid off employees."

Stark said that the sudden layoff appears to violate provisions of the Worker Adjustment and Retention Notification (WARN) Act. That act mandates advance notice of an impending layoff, and 60 days of pay and benefits, said Stark.

Stark said that if Solyndra seeks an exception to the law, the burden of proof would be on the company.

Saying that the law requires "as much notice as is practicable," Stark told Harrison, "I don't think it takes a well-skilled attorney to surmise that Solyndra executives knew before Wednesday morning that the plant would be shut down."

In their defense, officials of Solyndra told news media that they were talking to potential bidders to take over the company right up to the layoff notice. They said that they did not think the bankruptcy would occur.

Since the layoff, the FBI has raided Solyndra and the homes of officials to check the financial records to see if there was any wrongdoing.

A report in Bloomberg News on-line said that a group may make a bid to acquire Solyndra this week during bankruptcy proceedings in Delaware.

Concerns have been raised that whoever buys Solyndra

might sell off the manufacturing machinery and technology to a group in a foreign country, which could put the U.S. at a further disadvantage.

However, any lower prices in manufacturing is usually greeted gladly by consumer and solar

WINERY

(continued from page one) the development rights being sold.

In addition to the \$300,000 the Abboud family could receive a tax break. Mr. Abboud said they are looking into placing the land under a state law, often called the Williamson Act; it enables landowners to restrict land to agricultural use in return for "... property tax assessments which are much lower than normal..." since they are based on agricultural use rather than full market value.

Land lawyer Bill Thomson, of Harris-Tesla Vineyard, and a former TVC board member, estimates Williamson Act tax savings to a landowner could be dramatic, cutting the assessment to a little less than half. The County loses no revenue as it is reimbursed by the state. A fictitious business name, "doing business as The Abboud Family Winery," has not been filed with the County. Mr. Abboud said everything is in the early stages. An architect has to be hired and plans approved by the County. He believes the County will not be difficult to deal with. That's probably so, since there would be no large-scale development such as that desired by the Cedar Grove Community Church, and the County is usually guided by the TVC practices.

Of course, either the existing buildings have to be made

CELEBRATION

(continued from page one) 1961. Last spring, the school graduated its first eighth grade class since the recent conversion to K-8.

"At a time when schools are closing and everyone is facing hard times, we are proud to be celebrating 50 years and continuing to grow and thrive," said parent Mike King, who serves as the social and hospitality chair of the Joe Michell PTO.

This month the PTO is sponsoring a 50th anniversary t-shirt design contest. The winning design will be featured on the cover of the student directory; other designs will be included inside the directory so Joe Michell families can see more of the student artwork.

"We're going to incorporate the 50th anniversary into as many events as we can," explained Ehrlich. "This is something we will celebrate all year long." The PTO is planning a 1960's theme for the second annual father-daughter dance so students can experience something of the era that ended decades before they were born.

Over 50 years, Joe Michell has amassed a number of famous alumnae, including Major League Baseball pitching great Randy Johnson, National Football League players Louie Aguilar and Jack Trudeau, California Superior Court Judge Ron Cortez, and local dentist Dr. Ron Freeman.

Ehrlich proudly lists many of Joe Michell's recent achievements — 2009/10 California Distinguished School, and winner of the Get Fit Challenge, Back Seat Challenge, Stock Market Challenge, and Rotary Award, to name a few. The school is also 100% compliant with the new Tdap booster shot requirement.

Joe Michell has maintained an Academic Performance Index (API) over 800, the state's target, for the last four years, even as the school's demographics have

power installers.

A Department of Energy spokesman noted that Solyndra was competing against cheaper equipment from China, where government subsidies help pay for production.

ready or new structures built. A contractor would have to be hired for those possibilities.

The family has several possibilities of others being involved. A rumor running along the grapevine hints that Mitchell Katz Winery at Ruby Hill Winery could be relocated there. Its lease on Vineyard Avenue ends soon, and will not be renewed, according to both Mitchell Katz and landlord Mike Callahan. Katz said he and Mr. Abboud have talked, but added, "Nothing has been signed." Mr. Abboud would not comment on the rumor, emphasizing that this is about the Abboud family's vision.

There is presently no vineyard on the property. However, Mr. Abboud said one would be planted. He owns a vineyard in the Tesla and Vasco Road area and sells his grapes to valley wineries. Abboud is a home winemaker and mentions several red varieties. He says he has some Merlot and Syrah on hand, as well as Malbec, Barbera and a little bit of Cabernet Sauvignon. Abboud emphasizes that the event center is an eventuality and that everything is in the very preliminary stages. It's not even possible to establish a time line. One thing is certain: this is a great location.

When asked why they are doing this, Abboud said, "The Abboud family wants the land preserved."

changed rapidly. Ehrlich notes that over 17 languages are now spoken at the school.

The number of socioeconomically challenged students has also risen; Joe Michell is in the process of applying to become a Title I school. In the past, the school was a targeted Title I school, meaning services could only be provided to specific students, a difficult task.

"Becoming a Title I school allows us to provide educational services to all students, and effectively utilize resources to improve programs that support student learning," explained Ehrlich. "In short, our entire educational program will serve all students."

Joe Michell also has a wide selection of enrichment programs, run by parent volunteers. Students can participate in chess club, cheerleading, keyboarding, art, movement and music, soccer, hip hop dance, and robotics, among other activities. The Oakland Symphony continues to teach music classes at Joe Michell, thanks to financial support from the PTO.

To learn more about Joe Michell School, visit <http://joemichell.schoolloop.com>.

Cities to Determine Service Needs

The cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton will conduct a series of community meetings in September to determine the current services, gaps in service, and opportunities for service improvement in the Tri-Valley region's human services delivery.

The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Livermore Library at 1188 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore. A second

meeting takes place on Wednesday, September 28 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Dublin Library located at 200 Civic Plaza in Dublin. A final meeting is scheduled on Thursday, September 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Pleasanton Public Library at 400 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton.

The public is encouraged to attend and participate in a discussion about the human service needs in the Tri-Valley. These

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES

Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454917-21

The following person(s) doing business as: Calendar Girlz, 2048 Pinon Ct, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sonia L. Bradley, 2048 Pinon Ct, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Sonia L. Bradley. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2011. Expires August 9, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3054. Published August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455032

The following person(s) doing business as: Pure Bella, 6010 Johnson Drive Suite D - Studio 20, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kendyce S. Martinez, 1119 Riviera Court, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Kendyce S. Martinez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 11, 2011. Expires August 11, 2016. The Independent Legal No.

3056. Published August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455394

The following person(s) doing business as: DL Marketing, 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): All Pro Mortgage, Inc., 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Lori Porter, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 22, 2011. Expires August 22, 2016. The Independent Legal No.

3057. Published August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455393

The following person(s) doing business as: All Pro Mortgage, 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pinnacle Capital Mortgage Corporation, 1620 E. Roseville Pkwy, Suite 248, Roseville, CA 95661. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Patrick R. Palmer, Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 22, 2011. Expires August 22, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3058. Published August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455235-36

The following person(s) doing business as: (1) Renue Systems (2) Bluegreen Systems, 4843 Kimberley Com, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David G. Garrison, 4843 Kimberley Com, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/17/2011. Signature of Registrants: /s/ David G. Garrison. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 17, 2011. Expires August 17, 2016.

August 17, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3059. Published September 1, 8, 15, 22, 2011.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 453137

The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Richland Search Group, 2811 Salvia Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551. The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on June 21, 2011 in the County of Alameda. The full name of Registrant: Deborah Guillermo, 2811 Salvia Cmn, Livermore, CA, 94551. This business was conducted by: Deborah R. Guillermo. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Deborah R. Guillermo

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2011. Expires August 15, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455137

The following person(s) doing business as: Richland Search Group LLC, 1650 Sorrento Pl, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richland Search Group LLC, 1650 Sorrento Pl, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/15/2011. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Deborah R. Guillermo, Managing Member

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2011. Expires August 15, 2016.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 366781

The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Cal State Sings, 3985 First Street, Suite F, Livermore, CA 94551. The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on August 22, 2005 in the County of Alameda. The full name of Registrant: Todd Ganz, 752 Bellflower St, Livermore, CA, 94551. This business was conducted by: Todd Ganz

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Todd Ganz

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 455171

The following person(s) doing business as: Queens of the Green, 585 Heligan Lane #1, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Ashley Ann Kettmann, 545 Heligan Lane #1, Livermore, CA 94551 (2) Jeffrey Richard Kettmann, 545 Heligan Lane #1, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Husband and wife. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



Signature of Registrants:
/s/ Ashley Kettmann, 1st Registrar
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 16, 2011. Expires August 16, 2016.
The Independent Legal No. 3064. Published September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2011.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NO. VG10552404

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO)
ADAM V. DAFFNER, an individual

DOES 1 THROUGH 10, INCLUSIVE

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE)
RBS CITIZENS BANK, N.A., a National Banking Association

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in a proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Jeffrey A. Clark, SBN 70546

310/815-9440 310/815-0518
CLARK & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
2999 Overland Ave., Ste. 204

Los Angeles, CA 90064
DATE: (Fecha): DEC 15, 2010

Executive Office Clerk (Secretario)
Pat Sweeten

By /s/ (Adjunto)
Deputy (Adjunto)
Corinna Carden

The Independent Legal No. 3065 Publish September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2011

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 455340

The following person(s) doing business as: Pristine Security Systems, 1190 Rincon Ave., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Michael James Bell, 1190 Rincon Ave., Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by an individual
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 2007.

Signature of Registrants:
/s/ Michael J. Bell

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 19, 2011. Expires August 19, 2016.
The Independent Legal No. 3066. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2011.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656.

Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore 1 to 4. Sundays, cats are at Petsmart in Dublin 1 to 3. TVAR at (925) 803-7043 website at www.tvar.org

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

E & J GALLO WINERY

MECHANICS/ELECTRICIANS E&J Gallo has immediate full-time openings at its Modesto, CA facility for persons in the above crafts.

Required:
-Candidates must be available to work any work schedule and shift.
-High School diploma or GED.
-Bottling and Packaging equipment knowledge.
-Hourly rate of \$25.45 to \$31.31, plus shift differential.
-Medical, Dental Insurance and comprehensive benefits package.
www.gallo.com
EEO/AA/M/F/N/D

JANITOR/OFFICE CLEANER. Evening Shift. Must have own transportation and clean driving record. (925)245-0595.

DELIVERY DRIVERS. Orion Biosciences is Looking for Delivery Drivers for Full Size Cargo Vans, Mini Vans, Cars, Covered Pickup Trucks & Sprinters. Ages 21-74. Reply to: jobs@orionbiosciences.com or career.orionbiosciences@gmail.com

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

56) ADULT CARE

Independent Contractors Wanted, Senior Home Health Care. Must have experience. Senior Solutions, Inc 925-443-3101(60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD
call 925-243-8000

MERCHANDISE

COMPUTER ARMOIRE. Nutmeg finish. Size 60x53x27. Excellent condition. \$600 FIRM. (209)239-8185.

BICYCLE for SALE. "SUMMIT" 3-Wheel 2010 Model. Used once. Like new. Basket. Full Size. \$350. Joan Hall (925)337-4229

115) ESTATE/ GARAGE/YARD SALES

ESTATE SALE Saturday 9/17 and Sunday 9/18, 10:00AM-4:00PM. Furniture. Kitchen Items. Home Decor, and much more. 367 Quartz Circle, Livermore.

118) FREE SECTION

CLEAN FILL DIRT 2 1/2 cubic yards. You load and you haul. Livermore back yard. Accessible to pick-up or small bobcat. Call (925)447-4841.

NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD
call 925-243-8000

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's

status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE
Inland Valley Publishing Co.
Client Code:04126-00001
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads

The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

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Call (925) 243-8000



How to Find the Right Contractor for the Job

By Cher Wollard

Your home sweet home needs a new roof. Or it's time to replace the plumbing. Or you really would like to add another bedroom and expand the master suite.

But you've heard horror stories about incompetent workers; crews that arrive late, leave early and don't keep the site clean; contractors who disappear with all your money halfway through the job.

How can you find contractors who are skilled, diligent and honest?

- Start by determining what kind of contractor you need.
- When people say "contractor" what they general mean is "general contractor" – someone who oversees complex jobs possibly involving skilled workers in various fields. The State of California actually licenses 43 differentiated classifications of contractors, including those for plumbing, roofing, heating and cooling systems, cabinetry, and more.

In order to obtain a license, workers in each of these categories had to pass a test and be screened by the department.

If you are putting a new roof on your house, you probably can go straight to a roofing contractor. If, however, you are adding or remodeling a room, you likely will need a general contractor, who employs carpenters, painters, plumbers, dry wallers, roofers, etc.

- Get referrals.
- Ask friends and neighbors who have had work done that you admire. Or call your local Realtor. Realtors, as well as suppliers and others in the building trades, work with many contractors, and know first-hand who the good ones are.

"They've done business with him, they know how well he plies his craft, and if they're willing to put their professional reputations on the line by vouching for him, they must like what they see," according to a report in Money Magazine earlier this year.

If you are considering hiring a contractor whose work you have not seen, you can ask him/her for references. Most reputable contractors can give you a list of past clients.

"Call a handful of them, skipping around the list," advises Angie Hicks, the founder of angieslist.com.

Usually people will talk candidly with you. They may even invite you over to see the work the contractor completed on their property.

You can also check with the local Better Business Bureau or the National Association of the Remodeling Industry to see if they are members. Membership is not a guarantee, but may be indicative of stability.

- Check licensing status through the Contractors State License Board.

Contractors are required to have their license numbers on their business cards, and on all bids and contracts. Seeing the number there doesn't necessarily mean the license is valid. To be sure, call the State Board at 1-800-321-CSLB (2752) or check the website www2.cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicenseII/CheckLicense.aspx.

Make sure your prime contractor hires only licensed subcontractors, and check their licenses too.

- Verify the business location and telephone number.

"A tradesman who provides a physical address that's in your community is far less likely to disappear on you than someone whose true locale is hidden behind a post office box," according to Money Magazine.

To investigate a potential contractor's finances, look him/her up at contractorcheck.com. You can also check a contractor's reputation for payment and lawsuits at the local courthouse, through suppliers and with subcontractors.

- Ensure the contractor has proper insurance.

Worker's compensation insurance protects you in case a member of the crew is injured while working on your property. Commercial general liability insurance covers your property in case the crew damages something while working on your home.

In California, contractors who have employees are required to carry workers' compensation insurance.

According to the state board: "The importance of this cannot be overstated. If a worker is injured working on your property and the contractor doesn't have insurance, you could be liable to pay for injuries and rehabilitation. Your homeowner's insurance may or may not cover those costs. You should check with your insurance carrier to make sure the workers' compensation insurance coverage being provided by the contractor is adequate."

Commercial general liability insurance is advisable but not legally required.

Information regarding both types of insurance should be part of your written contract.

Ask to see a copy of the certificate of insurance, or ask for the name of the contractor's insurance carrier and agency to verify that the contractor has the insurance.

- Ensure the contractor is bonded.

California licensed contractors are also required to have a contractor's license bond. Some bonds are designed to protect you against substandard work that does not meet with local building codes.

Contract bonds guarantee the completion of the job and payment for all labor and materials, up to the face amount of the bond.

If you are taking out a loan against your property to cover the cost, your lender may require that any contractors you hire secure bonds for large jobs.

- Meet in person with any contractors you are considering hiring.

You can make all the inquiries prudence requires, but in the end you'll have to trust this person. Clear communication, good manners, promptness, tidiness and diligence are not qualities that will show up on any state or local report, but they can make the difference between a good experience and a very stressful one.

- Get written proposals.

You may have heard you should get written proposals from three contractors before you hire one. No matter how many proposals you get, there is a lot more to look at than price. An inexpensive contractor who does a shoddy job is no bargain.

The proposal should spell out exactly what work will be done, what materials used and what time frame followed for the agreed price.

Among the warning signs: a contractor who wants to do the work without proper permits. Any major improvement project will likely require a building permit from the city. That means city inspectors will check the work.

A contractor who wants to go without a permit may save you a few dollars on the deal, but it means no one will be looking at the work to ensure it is done properly – and that can cost you a lot more in the end.

Plus, if you plan to sell your property at some time, the lack of proper permits could create problems with potential buyers.

- Be clear about how you will pay the contractor.

A proposal should indicate a payment schedule. Usually contractors require a deposit when the work begins, with incremental payments as the job progresses. Don't pay all of the money before the job is completed as agreed.

A contractor who insists on being paid in cash may be shirking his taxes. He also may not be paying other costs, such as licensing fees, insurance bills and wages to his skilled crew members.

Make sure the contract states when specific aspects of the work start and end, and the price for each segment; as well as where supplies will be purchased, and who will purchase those materials.

Ask for copies of all receipts, and keep track of the paperwork.

A little investigating upfront can save you heartache down the road.

Next week: What to Do When the Job Goes Wrong
Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

Professionals Choice Real Estate Directory

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<p>BILL GROTH www.GrothMortgage.com (925) 989-2227 Community Presence, Reputation, Experience</p>	<p>SABRINA BASCOM (925) 337-0194 sabrina.bascom@bhghome.com 101 E. Vineyard Ave #103, Livermore, CA</p>
<p>The Fabulous Properties Team Cunningham • Garrison • Schall "Your Tri-Valley Home Selling Experts" Dave & Fran Cunningham (925) 202-6298 Donna Garrison (925) 980-0273 Susan Schall (925) 519-8226 Free home search at www.FabulousProperties.net</p>	<p>Tammy Yau & Steven Wang, CPA Short Sale/Foreclosure Specialist Property Management & Loans (925) 583-3086 / (408) 309-8920 CaGoldenProperties.com</p>
<p>MORTGAGE LOAN CONSULTANTS Specializing in VA, CalVet, FHA and Conventional Home Loans Rent vs. Buy... Barbara Duterte (925) 963-9572 Michelle Johnston (925) 784-1169</p>	<p>Alexander Hartford Realtor, Broker Associate, Home Appraiser www.AlexHartfordKWHomes.com (925) 895-9946</p>

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To Place Your Ad, Call Your Account Representative At (925) 243-8001

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT - PLEASANTON
5672 Stoneridge Dr
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Restoration Projects to Protect Property, Enhance Water Quality and Improve Wildlife Habitat

Two streambank restoration projects are occurring along the Arroyo de la Laguna between Pleasanton and Sunol to address streambank erosion. One project is occurring at Verona Bridge, and the other is at a site near the intersection of Koopmann Road and Pleasanton-Sunol Road, both on San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) property. Each project is using "biotechnical" stream restoration practices that incorporate woody material and native vegetation to protect the streambank and water quality, while also improving wildlife habitat.

The Arroyo de la Laguna is not equipped to handle the flows that result from water runoff during rain events from upstream impermeable surfaces in the Tri-Valley area. The stream is being severely impacted by these high flows, with several feet of streambank eroding each year. An inventory of the stream from Verona Bridge south on SFPUC property was conducted to identify which areas need restoration. Techniques and lessons learned from a project completed in 2006 along the Arroyo de la Laguna about a half-mile south of Verona Bridge will be used at these two sites.

Crews will be using onsite fallen trees and other vegetation to help slow down the water and deflect it back to the Arroyo's center, while creating healthier habitat. At the Verona Bridge Streambank Restoration Project, native trees and shrubs that have established on an unnatural gravel bar will be transplanted onto a rebuilt bench. The use of in-stream rock structures coupled with the use of vegetation demonstrates how these soft, habitat-friendly biotechnical practices can work to direct stream flows away from unstable banks, reduce erosion, and improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

The Verona Bridge Project is taking place along a 700-foot section of the Arroyo de la Laguna just downstream of the bridge. In addition to addressing the streambank erosion, this project will also focus on removing concrete rubble from under the bridge that is contributing to the unnatural flows at the site. The location of the project site will allow for permanent signage about this type of stream restoration work to be installed as well.

The project is receiving funding from a federal appropriation. It is a collaboration of several regional agencies, including the Alameda County Resource Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, SFPUC, Alameda County Public Works Department and Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

The second project is located along a 350-foot section of the Arroyo de la Laguna, owned by

the SFPUC, at the confluence of Sheep Camp Creek. This project is funded by the SFPUC as mitigation for impacts from their Bay Division Pipeline project. A conservation easement will be established for the property on which this project is located, preserving the creek and its banks.

Both of these projects will improve habitat in the Arroyo de la Laguna for species such as the Western pond turtle, migrating song birds and other local wildlife. These projects will also improve habitat for steelhead trout, once downstream barriers to fish migration are removed.

Construction is currently underway on both projects and will continue until October 15, 2011. Questions regarding either project, may be directed to Leslie Koenig with the Alameda County Resources Conservation District at (925) 371-0154 Ext. 115.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Visitors to the 9/11 10th anniversary event at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton put their thoughts on a banner in the remembrance and tribute area. The event included a patriotic parade, live music, and entertainment.

Janice Pementel
"Thanks Dad"
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Specializing In Dead Stock Removal Large & Small

Tri-Valley Conservancy
www.trivalleyconservancy.org

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October 6, 2011

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*Domestic Vehicles Only. Price is based on 5 quarts of oil plus tax and hazardous waste disposal fees. Excludes diesels, hybrids, modified, and performance vehicles. Full synthetic oils extra. Call for details. Exp. 9/30/11. *Must be member to qualify for \$9.95 Works Package special.

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- Replace Air Filter
- Replace Fuel Filter
- Rotate 4 Tires
- Check Brakes
- Check Belts & Hoses
- Fuel Conditioner
- Test Battery
- Top Off Fluids

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REALTORS

<p>JO ANN LUISI 925.583.1111</p> <p>Danville 8115 Camino Tassajara \$1,900,000 Rare opportunity for a Sports Enthusiast! One of a kind estate featuring a spacious custom home, large multi-purpose out building. BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>MARK LAFFERTY 925.583.1111</p> <p>Danville 240 Madeline Ln \$839,950 Gorgeous 3bd/3ba home in Wendt Ranch. Features include office/possible 4th bed, granite counters, maple cabinets, new carpet & tile floors. Must See! BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>MARK LAFFERTY 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 949 Medolla Ct \$849,950 Gorgeous single story home in Kristopher Ranch. Features include 5 bedrooms, granite, SS appliances, cinnamon maple cabinets, plus hardwood & tile. BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>JENNIFER MALAKOFF 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 4851 Scenic Ave \$674,500 Unbelievable 2yr new 3bd/3ba custom home on huge lot. One of a kind property, panoramic views from 2nd floor, full attic. Endless possibilities! BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>MARK KOTCH 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 717 Saddleback Circle \$543,000 Great Family home with 4 beds and 2.5 baths. Close to everything Livermore has to offer. 1683 sq ft +/- home on a corner lot 9800 sq. ft. lot +/- BY APPOINTMENT</p>
<p>MONLEY TEAM 925.251.1111</p> <p>Pleasanton 1967 Florio Circle \$529,000 Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, fresh paint and new carpets. Private balcony off bedroom and office. Attached 2-car garage, close to parks and downtown. BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>MARK JAMES 925.251.1111</p> <p>Livermore 1255 Hillcrest Ave \$499,000 Loads of upgrades! 2 master suites - 1 upstairs 1 main level - 2 FR, large kitchen, LR, situated on Vineyard side, and more. Must See! BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>ROBIN YOUNG 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 1018 Baltusrol Rd \$379,900 Former Model-Neutral Decor-tile/Carpet flooring, open floor plan, vaulted ceiling, spacious kitchen, granite counter tops, private master suite, a must see OPEN SUN, SEPT 18TH, 1:30-4:30PM</p>	<p>SHERRI SOUZA 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 849 El Caminito \$365,000 Very well maintained 3/bd, 2/ba, one story home. 1484 Sft, 2 car garage, lovely backyard with covered patio and lots of shade. BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>JENNIFER MALAKOFF 925.583.1111</p> <p>Livermore 5371 Lenore Ave \$295,000 Lovely Lenore! Spacious 2/2 with newer roof, d/p windows, a/c, flooring, 2-car garage, and private low maintenance yards. No distress. BY APPOINTMENT</p>

LIVERMORE • 2300 First Street, #316 925.583.1111

PLEASANTON • 900 Main Street 925.251.1111

Art, Community, & Education



Photo - David Wakely

Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center Celebrates 1st Anniversary

The City of Pleasanton will host a free celebration to observe the first anniversary of the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Saturday, September 17 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and continuing until 4:00 p.m.

The public is invited to celebrate the first anniversary of the art center, located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Scheduled activities at this

free public event include musical performances by local artists, art projects for the entire family, face painting, improv workshops in the classrooms, demonstrations by local artists, a reception in the art gallery, and cupcakes for everyone.

In its first year of operation, the Firehouse Arts Center opened its doors to more than 20,000 visitors who attended first-class jazz per-

formances, theater shows and musicals, literary events and speakers, a film series, art classes, art gallery viewings, and much more.

The historic fire station in downtown Pleasanton was built in 1929 with bricks from a local foundry. This building extends its legacy with the Pleasanton community as the new Firehouse Arts Center. The center features a 227-seat flexible studio theater, 2,000

square feet of gallery space, two large art classrooms, and a grand lobby for receptions and events.

The Firehouse Arts Center 2011-2012 season of entertainment launched in early September and continues this month on Sunday, September 18 with a 2:00 p.m. matinee performance by Lisa Vroman, a guest soloist who has performed both on Broadway and in the San Francisco show of

Phantom of the Opera. Incendiary pianist Michael Kaeshammer takes to the Firehouse stage on Saturday, September 24, and the Latin Fiesta of the Americas kicks off on Sunday, September 25.

Tickets for all performances are available for purchase online at www.firehousearts.org, in person at the Firehouse Arts Center box office, or by phone at (925) 931-4848.



Oak Grove performs.

Bluegrass Concert Set

A concert, featuring Oak Grove, the Tuttles with A.J. Lee and Alex Sharps will be hosted by Asbury Live Presents on Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Asbury United Methodist Church Sanctuary.

Located at 4743 East Avenue in Livermore, Asbury UMC has played host to many Bluegrass artists over the past five years.

Oak Grove is the Schwartz family-based bluegrass band from Walnut Creek, California. Nate and Max are brothers who play mandolin and banjo respectively, and their little sister plays fiddle. The parents, Bob and Gail, play guitar and bass to accompany their children. They've performed all over the state and delighted audiences of every age.

The Tuttles with AJ Lee bring a heritage of Bluegrass instrumentalists – starting with Gerald Tuttle, who formed the original Tuttle Family Band many decades ago

on the family farm in Illinois. Son, Jack, has carried on the tradition which he has now passed down to his children, Molly, Sullivan and Michael. Joined by A.J. Lee, a mandolin and fiddle player, began singing at age two and by age four was wowing audiences, this is a group with great energy and skill. A.J. and Molly harmonize beautifully in singing the great songs from the bluegrass tradition.

Alex Sharps is an extraordinary fiddle player, who although young, has been playing this instrument since he was small, has participated and won fiddle competitions and has developed an extensive repertoire of traditional tunes and new melodies.

Tickets are \$15 in advance/students/seniors or \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets in person at the church office from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. They can also be purchased online, at www.asburylivepresents.com.

www.asburylivepresents.com.

Come early at 5:30 and join in an open jam session. Bring your appetite as a BBQ at a good price will begin at the same time. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

Future events at Asbury include the following:

"Joe Hill's Last Will" by Folk musician John McCutcheon, Sunday, October 9, 2011; Asbury Follies, Saturday, October 22, 2011; SHEL with Guest Artist, Saturday, November 5, 2011; SONOS in concert, Saturday, December 3, 2011; Flatt and Scruggs Tribute Band, Saturday, January 7, 2012; Russell Moore and IIIrd Tyme Out, Friday, February 24, 2012; Asbury Players Production, March 10, 11, 16 & 17, 2012; John McCutcheon in concert, Sunday, March 18, 2012; and Groove for Thought, Saturday, April 14, 2012. Tickets for all events are available online www.asburylive.org.

Legendary Singer-Songwriter to Bring His Classic Hits To the Bankhead Theater

The only artist ever to receive Grammy Awards in all three categories – music, lyrics and orchestration – legendary singer-songwriter Jimmy Webb will play an concert in Livermore on Tues., Sept. 17.

Since his arrival on the music scene in the 1960s, Webb has had an immense influence on American songwriting. His extensive catalog of chart-topping classics includes "By the Time I Get to Phoenix," "Wichita Lineman," "Galveston," and "Worst That Can Happen," which have been called by The Los Angeles Times "some of the most elegantly crafted compositions of the last half century." Webb will appear for a single performance at the Bankhead Theater at 7:30 p.m.

Webb earned his place in the history of popular music early in his career, composing some of his most famous songs before reaching the age of 21. A native of Oklahoma, Webb's father was a Baptist minister who would not even allow songs by Elvis Presley to be played in his home. Nonetheless, Webb discovered his passion for popular music as a young teen and by the mid-1960s had worked his way into the music business in California. He celebrated five top ten hits during one 20 month period in the 1960s. Webb earned his first Grammy Award in 1967 for the song "Up, Up and Away," made famous by the Fifth Dimension, and the following year was awarded a second Grammy Award for "MacArthur Park." Over the years, his songs have been performed and recorded by a virtual hit parade of top artists from Glen Campbell, Tony Bennett and Rosemary Clooney, to Art Garfunkel, Linda Ronstadt, and Reba McEntire.

Webb has been inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and the National Academy of Popular Music Songwriters Hall



Jimmy Webb

of Fame and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Songwriters in 1993. He calls himself a romanticist, using imagery in his songs to express emotions that connect with both the musicians who play them and the audiences who hear them. Jimmy Webb's songs have achieved both critical and commercial success and their popularity has endured, not just as representative of a specific era, but as true American song classics.

Unanimously elected chairman of The Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2011, Webb is also the author of the best-selling book, "Tunesmith: Inside the Art of Songwriting," considered by many to be the Bible of songwriting. In addition to his popular songs, he has composed extensively for musical theater, film and television. Tickets for the intimate evening with Jimmy Webb at the Bankhead Theater on September 27th at 7:30 p.m. range from \$18 to \$40 for adults with \$14 student tickets available.

This is the fifth season for the "LVPAC Presents" series at the Bankhead Theater, showcases performers in music, dance and other performing arts across a wide range of styles and genres. The largest season since the theater opened, more than 45 events are scheduled through June with more anticipated for the summer of 2012. Next in the series is TAP KIDS for one performance only on Monday night, October 3, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. The ticket office is open Tuesday-Saturday from noon to 6:00 p.m. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

Donations Sought to Purchase 'Eternity'

Nancy and Gary Harrington are seeking donations to complete the purchase of artwork by Jim Hunolt.

The couple was at last week's Pleasanton City Council meeting. The Harringtons, who have established a public art partnership called Another H.A.P.P.Y (which stands for Another Harrington Art

Partnership Piece for You), have secured a piece called "Eternity" by Hunolt.

Gary noted that the original price was \$45,000. The city is being offered the work at \$26,340 plus tax. "It is a one of a kind work of art," Gary commented. The Harringtons have contributed \$18,000. The deadline to pay the entire

amount is December 10.

"We are looking for partners for the remaining funds. Any size donations is being accepted," said Gary.

The sculpture has been approved by the City of Pleasanton, which will handle all of the donations.

Checks payable to the "City of

Pleasanton" and indicate "Another H.A.P.P.Y." in the note section. Checks can be mailed to the City of Pleasanton, attention Susan Andrade-Wax, P.O. Box 520, Pleasanton, CA, 94566-0802. All donations of \$250 and greater will receive a formal receipt from the city. Donations are tax deductible.



Lee Ritenour Band performs Friday night.

Guitar Fest LIVE! Brings Free Concerts, Clinics and Events to Downtown Livermore

The third annual Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) LVPAC Guitar Fest LIVE! returns this weekend, bringing together guitar legends, musicians and fans for a celebration of all things guitar on September 16 and 17 in downtown Livermore.

Performances and events will feature a variety of guitar virtuosos and music gurus. The fest includes free clinics, outdoor concerts, the hottest new gear and world class guitarists performing at the Bankhead Theater. The weekend kicks off Friday night with LVPAC's final Friday Nights LIVE! free concert on the plaza featuring Los Angeles-based rock/jazz world music guitarist Jon Mulvey, from 6:30 – 8:00pm.

The festival moves indoors to the Bankhead stage at 8:00 p.m. featuring Grammy Award-winning jazz guitarist Lee "Captain Fingers" Ritenour and his special guest James Robinson. Guitar Player Magazine awarded Ritenour the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award for his exceptional jazz fusion guitar styling.

Concert ticket prices start at \$14 for students and range from \$39 to \$62 for adults. Our M.C. and host for this year's festival is Art Thompson, Senior Editor of Guitar Player magazine, and a Livermore native.

The festival's free outdoor concerts on Saturday include an acoustic stage at Blacksmith Square featuring a variety of Northern California guitar virtuosos from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., hosted by KFOG's Rosalie Howarth, DJ for Acoustic Sunrise, Sunset and World Music Hour. At 5:00 p.m. cross the street to the Shea Homes Stage in front of the Bankhead for a rockin' show featuring "R Cubed" Progressive, Experimental Fusion, "Larry Mitchell" Grammy Winning Rock Funk Guitarist, and "The Travis Larson Band" Instrumental Guitar Fusion.

On Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., free clinics with world-class guitarists will be offered sharing tips and techniques at ABC Music Store and Academy located on First Street in downtown Livermore. Clinics include: "Getting the Most From Your Pedalboard" with Voodoo Lab's James Santiago showing you the secrets of the pros for getting better tone from your rig; "Guitar & Bass Clinic with Travis Larson & Jennifer Young" as they discuss their approaches to music, equipment and technique in an intimate clinic setting, followed by a Q & A; "The Joy of Looping" with guitarist and live looper extraordinaire Bill Walker, demonstrating how

(continued on page 6)

BANKHEAD THEATER

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Lee Ritenour

Sep 16 at 8pm

The Consummate and Complete Jazz/Fusion Guitarist



SEPTEMBER 16 & 17

free outdoor concerts

free clinics

hottest new gear

www.guitarplayerlive.com

Sonny Landreth

Sep 17 at 8pm

An Extraordinarily Inventive Master of the Slide Guitar

Roméo et Juliette

Sep 24, 25 & Oct 1, 2

The love story by which all others are measured.

Jimmy Webb

Sep 27 at 7:30pm

The Quintessential American Songwriter

MOJO and The Bayou Gypsies

Sep 29 at 7:30pm

Cajun & Zydeco Concert

Taste of New Orleans Party 6-10pm

Tap Kids

Oct 3 at 7:30pm

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22nd Annual Nostalgia Day Features Classic & Custom Cars

By Carol Graham

When the yellow '58 Chevrolet Impala eased out of its parking space, the engine's low earthy growl caused people to turn and stare. One woman snapped pictures on her cell phone, shouting to owner Joe Carrillo, "My husband would love that car!"

Carrillo said of his car, "It's the Altamont Cruiser's mascot because it's on the logo, and it's the only one in the club."

On Sunday, September 25, the iconic Impala will be joined by nearly 700 other classic and custom cars in downtown Livermore as the Altamont Cruisers car club host their 22nd annual Nostalgia Day, a fundraiser that supports Tri-valley youth programs, primarily those focused on helping kids stay drug-free.

"Our motto is 'Cruisers Against Drugs,'" said member Phil Schuyler. "All of our net profits go to charity. Everyone's a volunteer; there are no paid members. Over the previous 21 years, we've raised more than \$270,000. We're hoping to go over \$300,000 this year."

The event is free to the public, with funds being raised through the cars' registration fees, sponsor donations, and the sales of raffle

tickets for 150 prizes of varying values. This year, prizes include two diamond necklaces, donated by Livermore's Caratti Jewelers and Lance Cavalieri Jewelers, a flat screen TV set in a basketball-shaped frame, and bicycles. Drawings are held and posted hourly. Tickets cost, depending on the prize, \$1 or \$2. Or, as member Shellie Schuyler said, "An arm's length for about \$20."

Raffle tickets can also be acquired by supporting the Cruisers' "Operation Anti-Freeze" with the donation of a coat or blanket. "One of the club members has collected those in the back of his pickup for years and years," said Phil. "He gives a raffle ticket for each item donated, and then takes the donations to a local shelter."

Fitting with the American Graffiti atmosphere of the event, special guest Candy Clark will be on hand to meet spectators and participants. In the classic 1973 movie, Clark played Debbie Dunham, the sweet blonde who was lured by Terry "The Toad" into a night of cruising in his friend Steve's . . . yup, '58 Impala. Her funny, unforgettable performance won her an Oscar nomination for Best Actress in a Supporting Role.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen
Pictured are (from left) Phil and Shellie Schuyler, Ed and Fran King, Joe Carrillo and Gary Gomes. In the top photo are their cars (from left) '47 Ford convertible; '67 Mustang Fastback; '58 Chevy truck; and '66 Pontiac GTO. On the opposite page, is a photo from last year's show of the engine of one of the cars.

A different movie comes to mind with the appearance of the Schuyler's car, a 1947 wheat yellow Ford Convertible that earned fame as Mr. Miyagi's "Wax on, wax off" car in 1984's *The Karate Kid*.

"We call it Old Yeller," said Shellie. Then, looking at other members, she asked, "You don't name your cars?"

Cruiser's vice president Ed King smiled and said, "Well, I used to call my Mustang a lot of names over the years."

Other cars at the show will likely include a 1911 Brassie, the

oldest car expected and the only one in the world. King explained, "They were called brassies because they didn't have all the chrome stuff you see now. The radiators, the headlights, the horn you squeezed on the outside, were all brass."

Bookending the other end of the spectrum 99 years later is a 2010 Corvette. "Since it's for charity, everyone is welcome," said Phil. Although all makes, models and years of vehicles are accepted, bicycles and dogs are not invited as their pedals, handlebars, leashes and claws are known to scratch and

dent the cars.

During the morning, about 45 awards will be given out to the participating cars, including the Mayor's Award (Mayor Kamena will be driven around in a golf cart to make his choice), the Best of Show (chosen by the Altamont Cruisers' president), and the Memorial Award (chosen by members who have lost a family member in the preceding year).

The parade of winners will cruise past the registration desk, located near Livermore's Chamber of Commerce on First Street. While an announcer reports the



make, model and award received, the club's president hands out trophies.

Awards are often based simply on the personal preference of the judges. "This is not the Concours d'Elegance in Monterey," said King. "No one's looking under cars or opening doors. Those cars have to be trailored everywhere. The engines have to be spotless."

The Altamont Cruisers' supported charities include Safe & Sober Grad Night, Open Heart Kitchen, Good News Bears, Pleasanton Police Department D.A.R.E. program (Drug Abuse Resistance and Education), Dublin Police Department's Crime Prevention programs, and Livermore Police Department's "Every 15 Minutes," during which the Grim Reaper takes pre-chosen juniors and seniors from high school classes every 15 minutes, followed by an officer entering and reading the student's obituary. A staged crash is displayed on the football field complete with paramedics, a medevac helicopter, a coroner, and a police officer handcuffing and arresting the culpable student.

Donations will be given to this year's recipients on December 6 in Livermore's police conference room. "That's a really cool meeting," said member Fran King. "I felt so good about being a club member, to see all the good we had done." As with all Altamont Cruiser meetings, the public is welcome.

In addition to helping local charities, the club offers many opportunities for members to get together socially. One of the most popular, the Mystery Tour, is coming up in October. Only the lead driver knows where they'll be going, their notice saying, "We will be going somewhere and end up at some place wearing something doing guess what?" The overarching theme is to enjoy the journey, not just the destination.

Driving a classic car is an open invitation for comments, admiration and nostalgia from everyone who sees them. When asked what the owners hear most often, Phil jokes, "People tell me that their grandparents have a car just like mine. Except it was a Chevy. And, it was red."

Member Rosemary Gomes adds with a smile, "And we get a lot of comments about the back seat."

OperaLive Program Planned at Livermore Library

Principal singers of the Livermore Valley Opera perform at the Livermore Public Library at 2pm on Sunday, September 18, 2011.

There is no charge for this event.

This OPERALIVE! program will feature Livermore Valley Opera principal singers, including Christie Hageman who will sing the role of Juliette and Bernardo Bermudez in the role of Capulet in the opera company's production of Romeo et Juliette at the Bankhead Theater beginning on September 24.

Hageman and Bermudez have selected arias from Romeo et Juliette as well as arias from other favorite operas for their performance.

Hageman has received numerous recognitions and awards including the award as Young Artist with Opera Colorado, first place winner in the 2010 Denver Lyric Opera Guild competition, and third place in the regional Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 2011. In 2006, Hageman took a year off to fulfill her duties as Miss Montana, traveling her home state and speaking to students with

Banners Help to Promote Upcoming ArtWalk in Downtown Livermore

To promote the 10th edition of ArtWalk, Livermore's annual downtown celebration of local artists and their work, select artists from around the Tri-Valley were asked to paint 20 art banners for public display, culminating with a silent auction sale during ArtWalk on October 8, from 11-5 at the Livermore Valley Plaza in front of the Bankhead Theater.

Banners are hanging from streetlight poles. Two banners will be displayed in downtown businesses. This is the third year that the banners have been created to benefit ArtWalk, and the third year that the project has been sponsored by Waste Management. ArtWalk is the premier fundraiser for the Bothwell Arts Center, a project of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

"Waste Management's help been invaluable in making this project possible", said Linda Ryan, manager of the Bothwell Arts Cen-



Banner painted by Susan Marchand.

ter and the originator of ArtWalk. "This year, we decided to forego a theme to see what the artists could come up with themselves. The results are varied and delightful, from orchids to sailboats." Ryan also noted that two of the banners

were painted by students in Barbara Stanton's art classes that meet weekly at the Bothwell Center. All of the artists donated time, talent, and oftentimes art supplies to create them.

This year, it will be even easier to find all of the banners, some of which can be difficult to spot if the poles are located near trees. The Bothwell and LVPAC produced their first ever ArtWalk Art Banner Tour Guide to help. The guides are available at Panama Red Coffee Company, the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, the Bothwell Downtown Art Studios at 62 So. L Street, and the LAA Gallery at the Carnegie, as well as online at www.bothwellartscenter.org.

Information about ArtWalk and the art banners can be found on Facebook by searching for ArtWalk Livermore. ArtWalk occurs annually on the second Saturday of October, with over 150 artists exhibiting their work in various venues in downtown Livermore. All proceeds from ArtWalk benefit the Bothwell Arts Center, a project of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, a not-for-profit organization. The Bothwell Center provides inexpensive studio, rental, performance and classroom space to over 6,000 artist, student and organizational users each year.

Gourmet Food Truck Festival

The Nom Nom food truck - made famous on the Food Network's Great Food Truck Race - plus a lineup of others dishing out everything from lobster topped mac and cheese to authentic Italian Panini will serve the crowds at The Gourmet Food Truck Festival at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 17 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. All are welcome to come enjoy a large variety of food trucks, beer, wine, margaritas, and live music. Adults pay a \$2 admission and children get in for free. Everyone is encouraged to bring

blankets, and chairs.

The Mobile Gourmet is a shoe-string start-up formed by two women who have spent their careers in the tech industry. Their mission is to introduce the joys of the food truck phenomenon to the suburbs, which they do by organizing food truck events throughout the Bay Area.

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Harvest Celebration, September 2011

By Laura Ness

It was the 30th anniversary of Livermore's annual harvest wine celebration: that's a long time to keep anything going. Originally designed to bring exposure to the smaller, off Tesla wineries, it is now a big party held primarily at two locations: Concannon and Wente. The concept of a joint venue with bands and food and vendors is certainly a good one, but it does make drinking a wee bit too much a whole lot easier. Let's just say that fact was not lost on Livermore's finest, who made quite a scene, zipping around on their motorcycles pulling people over. Score a 10 for police presence and a 1 for the ambience it created.

Some of the places I visited mentioned that traffic seemed a bit lighter this year, although on Sunday, with the buses, it's always a bit hectic. However, some, like Cuda Ridge, reported vibrant traffic Sunday, with many new faces. I heard that sales were not that strong, both from people at the Concannon location and at outlying tasting rooms. It's probably a combo of people walking from place to place along Tesla and not wanting to keep wine in a hot car.

What really needs to happen with this event is an air-conditioned bottle booth in the parking lot where the busses disembark. You pay for the wine you wish at each winery, and show your receipt at the booth to claim your wine before you leave the event. I think someone could make a nice killing selling ice chests and cold packs right there in the lot as well.

It's also been suggested that the Celebration be held on one day, from 11 til 6pm, so people have more time to get to more places, and the tasting rooms are not inconvenienced by having two days devoted to the event. This has its pros and cons. It's kind of nice having the two different personalities to the event, with Sunday being manic and Monday being mellow. Still, it does hurt to have to officially force people to buy a Harvest Wine Celebration ticket to taste, even when they've come a ways to visit a specific tasting room only to find out they can't taste without a wristband.

From a Celebration standpoint,

the way Wente and Concannon were set up is visually appealing and creates a sense of community. Wente really feels like an art fair. Concannon was beautifully laid out with vendors all along the edge of the lawn, including Skillen Wood Works with their gorgeous assortment of wooden chairs, animal rockers – think way beyond rocking horses- how about a rocking goat? Lots of great jewelry, and wine accessories, too. Cabana Dave's parked a truck there and the oysters were shuckin' and flyin' next to Rodrigue Molyneaux (RM), tucked beneath that gorgeous grape-laden arbor that makes Concannon one of the most charming outdoor spots in the Valley. The RM Chateau Molyneaux Pinot Blanc was a great pair with the oysters. I loved their very brightly spritely Nebbiolo. It makes the tongue tingle with anticipation of a fresh tomato and basil sauce on top of gnocchi. The RM Primitivo would favor something in the baked stuffed manicotti or eggplant Parmesan neighborhood of the menu.

While we're on the topic of food, if you haven't been to the Underdog Wine Bar yet, it's time to check it out and delight in one of Livermore's best assets. Sit outside in those comfy couchy chairs and watch the big, puffy cumulus clouds create a stunning backdrop to the flailing windmills, looking like ships treading water on an endless blonde sea. Sip on some Darcie Kent Gruner Veltliner and pretend you're about to call the wait staff to order high tea served in the beautiful old house next door. Oh wait, that's not your house. Dang. There is something about this place that indulges a sense of royalty. I hear that Darcie Kent is about to open her very own tasting room right on property, probably some time next year. Perhaps she'll work the concept of high tea in there somewhere. That DeMayo Chardonnay would be mighty fine with cream scones and whipped butter, and a spot of marmalade.

On a visit to Bodegas Aguirre, where we sampled the intriguing Cabernet Blanc Rose. We spied Jim Denham of The Wine Steward experiencing a typical busman's holiday. Las Positas is all prettied up and ready to rock: they have new signs, the beautiful mural is

up in the tasting room and the place definitely has Lisa's imprimatur. There is truly a lot of great space in this place. New winemaker Charlie Kidd was leading vineyard tours. The views from this property are simply delightful. Harvest begins soon, and their new tanks were set to arrive this week. We'll see what 2011 brings to this party.

We trotted off to Nottingham Cellars, dodging motorcycle cops at every corner. Maybe they came for the cupcakes, as I didn't see any donuts. At Nottingham and Occasio, they were serving wine on the patio, the better to enjoy the excellent band and feast on the eye candy of jewelry and crafts. Longevity was welcoming visitors inside their new digs.

At Nottingham, Amphora sampled delicious olive oils and vinegars, along with some tasty salads and crusty breads. I succumbed to the temptation of cranberry and D'anjou pear balsamic, which was truly delightful with Collin Cranor's stainless Chardonnay, always the perfect pair for a summer day. Ralph's Red is easy to love - what's not to like, and then Collin hit us with the monstrous 2009 Cabernet he's going to release down the pike. It's a mouthful of meaty, powerful intensity, like drinking a hurricane. We admired the sweetly frosted handiwork of Oh, My Cupcakes' Kathy D'Onofrio, whose business card says O.M.C.! Very clever.

Looking somewhat frosted himself, in a pink shirt and white silk scarf, we had the good fortune enough to run into Elvis (Bob) out at En Garde Winery, in the back of the Tenuta cellar. He was hanging around looking like he was ready to burst into a rendition of "Love Me Tender." He's quite the wine aficionado, and rattled off some of his local favorites, including Steven Kent and Retzlaff. He's crazy about the peppery nature of Bob's reds. He started out doing covers for Ricky Nelson back in the 70s and 80s until a band manager insisted his group learn Elvis tunes, or, "yer outa here!" Since he looks a whole lot more like Elvis than Ricky, it's a natural fit. Plus, he doesn't have a fondness for fried peanut butter and bacon sandwiches, so he'll most likely be around a lot longer than the original.



Eric Gales will be part of the Saturday night line-up that includes legendary guitarist Sonny Landreth.

GUITAR FEST

(continued from page 3)

these great new tools can help you stimulate your creativity, develop your playing skills, extend your range as a soloist, and add to your enjoyment of the guitar; "Owning the Fingerboard" brings Compass recording artist and Santa Cruz Guitar endorser James Nash who shares tips on how to break away from "blues boxes" and "cowboy chords" on a quest for improvisational freedom up and down the guitar neck.; and Jim Hurley of Open Strings Music Studio teaches "Guitar Noire," how to play Gypsy jazz with an introduction to the authentic chords and scales of the genre as found in the classic standards "Minor Swing" and "Bossa Dorado" and will "gypsy-fy" a simple minor blues.

A manufacturer's showcase featuring the hottest new guitar gear will fill the Bankhead Theater lobby from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon. Stop in and enter to win a Huntington electric guitar autographed by guitar hero Eric Johnson! Demo some of the newest equipment from Voyage-Air Guitars, Spector Basses, Maloney Stringed Instruments, Blackstar and Mesa Boogie Amps, Taylor, Ibanez, Cordoba, Samick and DBZ Guitars. Browse through premium music gear and artwork, along with accessories and services from Hertlein Guitars,

Axe Heaven, ABC Music Store & Academy, Artistic Edge, Burnin Burro Studios, Musictime Academy, Electro-Voice, Kevin Phillips Rock Memorabilia, and Leo's Pro Audio, and while you are at it, enjoy a glass of award winning Occasio wine or Lagunitas Brewing Company's IPA.

The festival winds down (or up!) Saturday night, with legendary slide guitarist Sonny Landreth performing at the Bankhead along with special guests, blues guitar phenomenon Eric Gales, and The Michael Landau Group. The performance starts at 8:00 p.m., with the manufacturers' showcase in the lobby an hour prior to the concert. Concert ticket prices start at \$14 for students and range from \$39 to \$62 for adults. If you love guitars and music, don't miss this "electrifying" event!

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore.

The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org. For the complete LVPAC Guitar Fest LIVE! schedule visit www.guitarplayerlive.com, or on your smart phone visit the Livermore Downtown App and click on the guitar pick.

Wente Hosting Benefit for Equestrian Foundation

SonRise Equestrian Foundation will celebrate five years of miniature horse hospice visits, horsemanship skill building and horseback riding lessons during their fifth annual Wine and Equine Festival. The organization aims to generate 50 percent of its operating budget for the entire year during this festival on Friday, September 16 at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at www.sonriseequestrianfoundation.org for \$150 per person. All proceeds go to SonRise Equestrian Foundation. Visit online or call 925-838-7433 (RIDE) for additional information.

"Our theme this year is: A Magical Evening in the Vineyard," said SonRise founder Melanie Buerke.

"This will be a special evening to look back to hundreds of magical moments in which horses have forever changed the lives of children and adults in our community and to look forward to the changes to come."

The Festival, which is sponsored by Wente, will feature estate grown sustainably farmed wines, appetizers, a gourmet dinner, dancing with music by Jack Pollard, live and silent auctions, wine cellar raffle and a jewelry raffle. The wine cellar raffle winner will

receive a collection of 25 bottles of premium wine. The jewelry raffle winner will receive a Tiffany & Co. silver sterling horseshoe pendant, 16 inches in length. Anyone can participate in the wine raffle whether or not they are able to attend the event. Wine raffle tickets are \$20 each or six for \$100. More information is available on the SonRise website.

SonRise offers four programs: In-the-Saddle, a one-to-one riding program; Team Equine, a group-based program through which children develop social skills and self confidence while caring for horses; Traveling Tails, a program that makes horses accessible to children with autism and life-limiting illnesses by bringing miniature horses to them at camps, schools and children's hospice programs; Play Days – days held quarterly through which we educate Bay Area children about horses. All of these programs are offered to the children.

All four programs help children develop confidence through mentoring and peer relationships through the care and enjoyment of horses. There is currently a waiting list to participate in each of these programs. Visit www.sonriseequestrian.org for more information.

Library Seeking Teen Editorial Staff for Fusion Teen Zine

Livermore Public Library is seeking four Livermore area teens in grades 9-11 to be part of a volunteer editorial staff for a free tabletop publication, "Fusion Teen Zine." Fusion Teen Zine is a full color art and literary magazine that provides a creative outlet for teen artists and authors to share their talents and unique perspectives on the world.

Teens interested in becoming a part of the editorial staff must have excellent composition and editorial skills, the ability to utilize features and functions of Adobe InDesign software and an eye for quality in art and writing.

The editorial staff of Fusion Teen Zine will be responsible for the selection of submitted art and literature, editing literary works, layout, design, print and web distribution and promotion of the magazine. The opportunity to become part of the editorial staff provides many hours of volunteer

service and experience in learning about the world of editing and publishing.

To view past issues of Fusion, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net. To volunteer, please contact Sandy Fouts at 925-373-5500 ext. 5583.



The executive desk used by John Sculley during 10 years as Apple CEO will be auctioned off at A Starry Night, a gala dinner, auction, and dance, sponsored by Pleasanton North Rotary.

Historic slice of Apple Inc. Awaits Sale at 'A Starry Night' charity dinner

The executive desk, used by John Sculley during 10 years as Apple CEO, heads the line up of valuable items for auction at "A Starry Night," a gala evening of dining, dancing, and charitable giving, sponsored by Pleasanton North Rotary (PNR).

Tri-Valley merchants and individuals have donated more than 50 products and services for live and silent auctions at the 23rd annual event Sept. 24 at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, Livermore.

Sculley was the highly successful president of PepsiCo when he heeded the call of Apple Founder Steve Jobs in 1983 to become CEO of the still young computer company in Cupertino. Under Sculley's management from behind this desk, Apple sales grew 10-fold to \$8 billion.

Vacations in New Orleans, Squaw Valley and Ridge Tahoe ski resorts, Pebble Beach, and the Napa Valley will also be auctioned off.

The gala, in 2010, raised more

than \$95,000 for many of the same Tri-Valley charities that will benefit from this year's fund-raising. Beneficiaries include REACH, a housing and education program bringing independent living to the developmentally disabled; Tri-Valley Special Olympics Northern California; Hope Hospice, Kaleidoscope (Easter Seals), Pleasanton Gardens Senior Housing; Las Positas College Foundation, El Oasis, a school and orphanage near Ensenada, Mexico, and Polio Plus, Rotary International's effort to eradicate polio.

A special fund-a-need project featured this year at A Starry Night will continue PNR's support for the construction of a new classrooms and offices for School of Imagination and Happy Talkers in Dublin, a school devoted to educat-

ing autistic and developmentally disabled children.

A 50/50 raffle will help fund PNR's collaboration with the WheelChair Foundation, a partnership that has distributed more than 5300 wheel chairs to needy individuals in Central and South America since 2003.

Mark Ibanez, sports director of KTVU Channel 2, will serve as A Starry Night's master of ceremonies. Public Eye will play high-energy, 80's-style rock n' roll.

Sponsored tables and individual tickets (\$150 per person) can be purchased at A Starry Night's website: <http://www.astarrynight.org>.

For more information, contact Ronda Hensdorf, president, Pleasanton North Rotary at 510-414-3233 or jjb4@comcast.net



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at Retzlaff Vineyards
1356 So. Livermore Ave. Livermore

Don't miss our last show of the summer
Saturday, September 24 - 7:30 PM
Michael Slack, Tessie Chua and Lynn Ruth Miller

Tickets & info at: comedyuncorked.com

Grounds open at 6pm for pre-show picnic: check out affordably priced Mediterranean street food from Faz!

Benefitting
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www.winegrls.com


www.ap42.com


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ART & ENTERTAINMENT



To celebrate the Firehouse Arts Center's first birthday, artist Amy D. Leung will give an art demonstration on September 17 from 2:30 to 4:00 PM in the Reznick Studio, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Amy will also display a few of her recently finished small paintings. One of which is "Sun Soaked Afternoon-Mendocino." Two of her paintings are recently juried into national prestigious art exhibitions: Oil Painters of America (OPA) 2011 Western Regional, hosted by Lee Youngman Galleries, Calistoga; Oct. 8-30; and The National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society (NOAPS), hosted by Dunnegan Gallery of Art, Bolivar, MO; through October 28, 2011

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Back to the Future Show, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. July 13 to Sept. 19. Sponsored by the Livermore Art Association. Theme for all pieces is "Through Time." Show honors LAA founders and early LAA contributors in the Founders Room at the theater.

ArtWalk is set for October 8 from 11-5 in downtown Livermore, with new exciting changes to streamline the event. Artists and interested businesses, please check out the info at www.bothwellartscenter.org.

Pleasanton Art League Fall Members' Exhibit, Sept. 15-Oct. 15. FirehouseArts Center, Harrington Gallery, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Reception and awards ceremony Sat., Sept. 17, 1 to 3 p.m. www.pal-art.com. Gallery open Thurs., Fri., Sat. 9/15, 16 & 17; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 9/21, 22, 23, 24; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 9/28, 29, 30; 10/1; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10/5, 6, 7, 8; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10/12, 13, 14, 15.

Livermore Art Association (LAA) Gallery, exhibit of realistic watercolors of Karen Fleschler for the month of September. The LAA Gallery, is open 11:30-4:00 Wed.-Sun. It is located in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd St. Livermore. It is also open from 4-8 Thursday nights, during Farmer's Market season. For more info call the Gallery 925-449-9927.

Lynda Briggs at Wente Estate Winery tasting room, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. September 1-29.

Maclyn Pons will show her watercolor & colored pencil work of florals and landscapes at the Garre Vineyard Cafe. September and October. 7986 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. At the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and

refreshments are available. Call or email Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 -microangelo@earthlink.net.

Art in Public Places, join a local group of artists and paint on selected Friday mornings around town. ACC/Art Critique & Coffee invites artists to express themselves in watercolor, acrylic, oil For more details check out the website for Poetry On Canvas Pleasanton or contact Claudette at PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com ~ ACC Meets each Friday at various locations.

WINERY EVENTS

Free Tasting Fridays, Rodrigue Molyneux Winery, will now be open Fridays from 12:30-5:00 for the month of August and possibly beyond. The entire flight of yummy wines will be poured for any guests to celebrate our opening on Fridays. 3053 Marina Avenue, Livermore, CA 925-443-1998, info@rmwinery.com, www.rmwinery.com

La Luna Friday at Murrieta's Well, Sept. 16, Spanish-inspired tapas and Murrieta's Well wines served on the terrace; live music performed by Robert Sakogawa. Reservations are required. Tapas and wine service 6:00-8:00 pm; Wine sales by the bottle until 8:45 pm; Music and fun until 9:00 pm. \$40 for Silver Spur Members and \$45 for guests. All reservations will be considered guaranteed and will be charged 72 hours in advance of the event date and are non-refundable. For reservations, directions or more information, call 925-456-2395.

Entries are being sought for the 2012 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. The annual judging that takes place over a four-day period in January. All results are then immediately posted on www.winejudging.com and many of the award winners will have the opportunity to be showcased at the exclusive Public Tasting in San Francisco, February 18, 2012. Wine entry information and forms are available at www.winejudging.com.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on Fridays, Satur-



Carl Tilchen, singer/songwriter, will be in concert at The Pine Street Bar in Livermore on Thurs., Sept. 22, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. He sings songs from The Beatles, Bob Dylan, Stevie Wonder, and his own original songs at The San Jose Jazz Summerfest, The Village Gate (New York, NY), The Newport Folk Music Festival (Newport, RI), Freight & Salvage (Berkeley, CA), The Las Vegas Country Saloon, and The Bootlegger Bistro (Las Vegas, NV).

days and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Information at 449-1871 or www.red-featherwinery.com

Friday Nights LIVE! free outdoor concerts in downtown Livermore will be extended with three new local bands performing from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Fridays through September 16, 2011. Sponsored by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, the concerts are presented on the Shea Homes Stage outside the Bankhead Theater. Final concert on September 16 launching the third annual LVPAC Guitar Fest LIVE!, a weekend-long event filled with live music, free clinics, and other events for guitar enthusiasts and music fans. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org For more information, contact the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center: 925-373-6100 or www.livermoreperformingarts.org

First Thursday Concert Series, Dublin Farmers' Market, the City of Dublin, Emerald Glen Park. The concerts will be held in the plaza area on the Gleason Drive side of Emerald Glen, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Oct. 6. Also winetasting and food sampling.

Tri-Valley Medieval & Renaissance Collegium playing session for amateur musicians, Peter Maund, director. Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7600 Dublin Blvd., suite 370, Dublin. \$25. Information collegium2011@gmail.com or 925-424-1209 or 925-984-4395

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band, plays at The Sunol Jazz Cafe (In the Center of Sunol) the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 7:30-9:30 p.m. The band features real Jazz from the 1920's, 30's, 40's.

Blacksmith Square live music, Saturdays 3-6 May - September, sponsored by Artistic Edge, Greenleaf BBQ Products, John Christopher Cellars, Swirl, and Victorine Olive Oil. Corner of South Livermore Ave. and Railroad Ave. downtown Livermore.

Dublin Heritage Center Music Jam, Every Tuesday night there is an open music jam for either Bluegrass or Irish Fiddle. All are welcome to come and listen or join in and play. 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Information: 925-452-2100.

Peppino D'Agostino & Carlos Reyes, Fri., Sept. 16, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Guitar Festival LIVE, Lee Ritenour with special guest James Robinson, Sept. 16, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Guitar Festival LIVE, Sonny Landreth with special guests Eric Gales and Michael Landau Group, Sept. 17, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Lisa Vroman, Sept. 18, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$27.

Erik "Howlin' Hounddog" 4-A, performs Sept. 23, 9 p.m. at the Pine Street Grill, 875 Rincin Ave., Livermore. Also appearing will be Groovy Judy, Paper & Plastic, and special guests, the Original Sin Burlesque Troupe. <http://www.pine-stbarandgrill.com/>

Michael Kaeshammer, jazz pianist, Sept. 24, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$25.

Jimmy Webb, country and wester, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOJO and the Bayou Gypsies, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jazz at the Library, Kenny Washington Trio, Friday, September 30; 8 p.m. the

San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery Street, San Ramon. \$20 each (Seniors 62+ and Students \$15) www.sanramonjazz.org/wp/wp-admin/edit.php

Pops Concert. The Livermore-Amador Symphony will perform its annual pops concert with the theme Fanfare for Food on Friday, October 21 at 8 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center Ballroom. Wearing costumes and bringing your dinner is encouraged. This event is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild. Call 925-447-6454 to make your reservation starting Sept. 1.

ON THE STAGE

The Last Five Years, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre presentation. Weekends Sept. 16 to Oct. 9. 1048 Serpentine Lane #309, Pleasanton, www.trivalleyrep.com.

National Acrobats of China, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

A Few Good Men, Diablo Actors' Ensemble season opener. Fri., Sept. 16 through Oct. 1; Thursdays through Saturdays 8 p.m. and Sundays 2 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10-\$25 online or via phone and \$15-\$30 at the door. To order tickets visit www.diabloactors.com or call 866.811.4111. Diablo Actors' Ensemble is located at 1345 Locust Street in Walnut Creek. Parking is available across the street in the city garage for a nominal fee.

12th annual Eugene O'Neill Festival; Danville: performances of Mourning Becomes Electra by Role Players Ensemble, Sept. 16-18, 22-25. Oct. 1, The Village Theatre, tickets at www.danvilletheatre.com. Eugene O'Neill 101, The Village Theatre, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. Dan Cawthorn presents an overview of the life and works of O'Neill. Alamo-Danville Artists Society Exhibit of work inspired by O'Neill, Sept. 23, 25, reception on Fri., Sept. 23, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday symposium on Mourning Becomes Electra, The Village Theatre, Sept. 24, 10 a.m. to noon, series of short presentations. A Celebration Before Mourning, a fund-raiser to support the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Sept. 24, 6 to 7:30 p.m. includes reception with wine bar and gourmet appetizers, premium reserved seats for performance, desserts, champagne and coffee, \$100 per person. Self-guided tours of Tao House, O'Neill's home in the Danville hills, Saturdays 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. National Park Service vans shuttle visitors to the site leaving from the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Avenue. 820-1818, www.eugeneoneill.org/

Mourning Becomes Electra by Eugene O'Neill, September 16 - October 1, Role Players Ensemble, 8 p.m. Th., Fri., Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Village Theatre, 233 Front St. Danville, www.ci.danville.ca.us

Pleasanton Senior Players Present Hallelujah Girls, 7 p.m. Sept. 30, 2 and 7 p.m. Oct. 1. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

COMEDY

Comedy fund raiser: Exceptional Needs Network "ENN" has an upcoming fund-raiser @ Tommy T's in Pleasanton on Thurs., Sept. 15. Doors open 6:30 p.m., show begins at 7:30 p.m. Headliner is Robert Duchaine; show opener is "Tri-Valley local" Regina Stoops. Tickets are \$15 for one, \$25 for two, and \$100 for a table of ten. Raffle prizes available. To purchase tickets online, please visit http://ennnetwork.org/TT/Support_ENN_at_Tommy_Ts/Support_ENN.html. Funds raised are used to help pay for staff and activities/vendors for the November camp.

Comedy Uncorked, Retzlaff Vineyards, benefit for Open Heart Kitchen. Sept. 24. Doors open 6 p.m., performance 7:30 p.m. Retzlaff Vineyards is located

at 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. They can be purchased at www.comedyuncorked.com/

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

39th annual Competition for Young Musicians, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered. The purpose is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 11, 2012. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$300. The application deadline is Sun., Oct. 2. Completed applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a CD or cassette tape for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained from www.livamsymph.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

Valley Concert Chorale auditions by appointment, Monday, September 19, at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. The church is located at the corner of 4th and L Streets. The Chorale is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Chorale performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, and folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205. Both audition dates are also open rehearsal nights for anyone who would like to sit in on a rehearsal and experience a typical rehearsal, read through the music for the fall quarter and consider auditioning for the chorus.

Auditions "Annie", Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production of the Tony Award winning Musical. Director: John Maio, Non-AEA, multi-ethnic casting. Minimum of 15M (16-60); 15F (16-50) 10 Girls (6-14). Non-traditional casting encouraged. No pay, non-equity. No appointments necessary. Sat., Sept. 24, 11 a.m. and Sun., Sept. 25, 7 p.m. Callbacks by invitation only - Saturday 10/1/2011 at 11am. 1048 Serpentine Lane #303, Pleasanton. Prepare 16 bars of a show tune that best shows your range. Cold read from script, be ready to dance. Bring conflict calendar, your headshot and resume. For more info - www.trivalleyrep.org or contact Producer, Kathleen at KBreedveld@trivalleyrep.com.

MOVIES

These Amazing Shadows will be shown at 7 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 15 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. This 88-minute documentary tells the history and importance of the National Film Registry, a roll call of American cinema treasures that reflects the diversity of film, and indeed the American experience itself. Pleasanton Public Library will screen These Amazing Shadows free of charge at the Pleasanton Firehouse Arts Center. 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. There are no tickets or reservations needed, just drop by. Director/Producer Paul Mariano will host the screening and introduce his film.

Classic films at the Pleasanton Library, Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present the series. Theme this year is "Three Great Directors." Admission is free. The series is hosted by Candace Klaschus, Professor of Media Studies at Las Positas College. Klaschus offers a brief entertaining talk about each film prior to the screening. The three great film directors featured in this year's series are Howard Hawkes, John Ford and Alfred Hitchcock. Refreshments are served. A complete list of the "Three Great Directors" films is available at the Pleasanton Public Library. Movies will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 7, 2012. No registration required.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

CHORAL

Women's Antique Vocal Ensemble, directed by Cindy Beitmen, will perform a series of concerts in California missions for the purpose of raising money for the continued restoration of these buildings. Concerts will include Renaissance and Baroque music from New Spain (Latin America), which provided a basis for the music composed and performed in the California missions. Guest instrumentalists include Joyce Johnson-Hamilton, cornetto, trumpet, recorder; Shirley Hunt, viola da gamba; Howard Kadis, vihuela & archlute; Mary Prout, viola da gamba; Aaron Westman, violin, viola. Performance will be Saturday, September 17 at 7:30 PM, Mission San Jose, 43300 Mission Road, Fremont. Tickets \$20 general, \$10 seniors/students. No advance ticket sales. A full listing of the concert tour and program can be found at www.wavewomen.org

OPERA

Opera San José opens its 28th season with a San José premiere of Mozart's, *Idomeneo*: ré di Creta, the mythical tale of the king of Crete set at the end of the Trojan War. Eight performances are scheduled from September 10 through 25 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at www.operasj.org. *Idomeneo*: ré di Creta is jointly produced with the Packard Humanities Institute and made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

Roméo et Juliette, Livermore Valley Opera 20th Anniversary Season opening opera, Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*. Gounod's opera about star-crossed lovers will be presented in French with English supertitles in Livermore on September 24, 25 and October 1 and 2 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermorevalleyopera.com. Tickets can also be purchased at the Bankhead Theater box office or online at www.bankheadtheater.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pleasanton History Walk, 4th Saturday of the month. Tours depart from the Museum on Main at 2 p.m. and are approximately 1 1/2 hours long. The tour is appropriate for all ages, covers a distance of approximately one mile and is handicapped accessible. Tours are limited to the first 25 people in attendance. Saturday, September 24. For more information on tours or programs at Museum on Main contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

M.o.M.'s Reading Time, ages 2 to 5 and families, Museum on Main monthly reading program, 10 to 11 a.m. with theme related crafts immediately following. Admission is free. Donations are always appreciated. No Reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please call in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. October 12: *Spooky Stories*- Are you ready for Halloween? Come dressed in your costume and enjoy a spooky morning at the Museum on Main. November 9: *Giving Thanks*- What are you thankful for? Enjoy books and make a craft to share at the Thanksgiving table. December 14: *Snow Day*- You never know where you'll find snow! Join us for a cool morning of books and fun all about snow. 603 Main Street.

Fall Book Sale, Friends of the Dublin Library will hold its Fall Used Book Sale Sept. 16-18 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza. Friday, Sept. 16 is members only night, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Memberships

will be available starting at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, the sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The sale continues Sun., Sept. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. This is bag day. Fill a paper bag (provided) for \$4, or fill a special edition Friends of the Library canvas tote bag for \$13. Totes are also available alone for \$10. Special features include specially priced books, new or of extra value; a teacher materials section; and tote bag sale with all totes for \$5 on Friday and Saturday only. More information is available on the Library's website at www.aclibrary.org, the Friends' website at www.dublinfriends.org, or call the Library at 925-828-1315. The Library is wheelchair accessible.

2011 Children's Fair, presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Saturday, Sept. 17, and Sunday, Sept. 18, Children's Fair is a free event with kid-friendly activities, crafts, performances and more. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

Beer Train, Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association, 3rd annual Beer Train, Sat., Sept. 17, on the Niles Canyon Railway in Sunol. BBQ at 3 p.m.; train departs 5 p.m. sharp. Strolling minstrels, gunfighters, raffles. \$40 includes a barbecue in the park; bottled water and will be available. No one under the age of 21; must show ID when purchasing ticket and boarding train. Reservations, contact Tim at 447-7562. Information at www.LivermoreRodeo.org.

Coin Show and Sale, Livermore Valley Coin Club first ever fall show. Sun., Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Springtown in Livermore. Over 25 dealers; appraisals and purchases; hourly drawing. Admission is free. Lunch service available. Information, Stephen Kramer, 980-9307.

Book Club - Cultural Differences in Fiction, first meeting of the year will feature *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, by Helen Simonsen. Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Storytime/Craft Room at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. The book group will be led by Carol Bloodworth, a local resident. For more information on this book club, please contact Carol at 449-7860.

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

Museum on Main, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, September 21, 7 p.m., *California Woman Suffrage*. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Brothels, Bar Rooms & Bandits, Saturday, September 24, 6-10 p.m. at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Museum on Main's third annual fundraiser. Western attire is encouraged but not the law. Tickets, \$40 per person, includes a BBQ dinner, gambling chips and the best entertainment in the West. Over 21 only...or we'll call

the sheriff. For tickets, phone the museum at 925.462.2766 or mosey on down to 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Cash, credit cards and gold nuggets are acceptable.

Quilting in the Garden, Sept. 24 and 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presented by Alden Lane Nursery and In Between Stitches. Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Featured artists Verna Mosquera and Rob Appell. Classes, displays, etc. Information www.aldenlane.com.

Nostalgia Day Car Show, Sun., Sept. 25 downtown Livermore. Presented by the Altamont Cruisers. Over 700 cars, music, prize drawings, vendors, and arts and crafts. Parade of award winners. Activities

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.

Jeans and Jewels, Tri-Valley Conservancy annual fund-raising event. Thurs., Oct. 6, 6 to 10 p.m. at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery. Gourmet Dinner, silent and live auctions, hosted bar. \$95 per person. Register online www.trivalleyconservancy.org or call 925-449-8706. Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton.

Outcast Cat Help, fund-raiser, "Purrs and Spurs," a western themed event which will feature wine & beer, music, hors d'oeuvres, raffle prizes, tastings of Olivina Olive Oil, and more. All proceeds will benefit Outcast Cat Help, a 501(c)(3)

non-profit organization made up solely of volunteers dedicated to helping control and care for the stray & feral cat populations in the community. October 8, 2011, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Olivina, located at 4555 Arroyo Road, Livermore. In addition to the festivities, there will be an educational exhibit on TNR (trap-neuter-return), which is considered to be the most humane and effective way to control the population of stray and feral cats. There will also be information on National Feral Cat Day, October 16, 2011. Tickets for Purrs & Spurs are \$25.00 per person, and can be ordered online at outcastcat.org, or by calling 925-231-0639.



Mark Hummel

Blues Harmonica Blowout at the Firehouse with Mark Hummel & The Blues Survivors

Overflowing with the rhythms of Chicago blues, jump blues, and rock 'n' roll, Mark Hummel brings his Blues Harmonica Blowout™ to the Firehouse Arts Center on Sunday, October 2, for a 7:30 p.m. show.

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

In Oakland, the northern capital of California blues, harmonica player and vocalist Mark Hummel has been instrumental in shaping a new musical genre as leader of The Blues Survivors, a harmonica-led blues band. Such bands draw their inspiration from the Chicago school of blues, adding elements of jump blues and rock 'n' roll to create an exciting new

style of West Coast blues.

Hummel calls himself a road warrior, a true Blues Survivor. During his evolution as a musician, he has crafted his own trademark harmonica sound, which features a subtle combination of tone, phrasing and attack combined with a strong sense of swing. Since 1991, he has produced the Blues Harmonica Blowout™ series, which continues to draw sellout crowds wherever they appear, nationwide. Their list of band members is called a "Who's Who of Blues Harp History" and includes James Cotton, Charlie Musselwhite, Magic Dick, Jerry Portnoy, Rick Estrin, Lee Oskar, Curtis Salgado, Billy Boy Arnold, Johnny Dyer,

Watermelon Slim, and James Harman. Performing with Hummel at the Firehouse Arts Center will be Rod Piazza, Lazy Lester and Little Charlie.

Tickets are Adult: \$18, \$24 and \$28 Child: \$12; Senior \$24. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.

Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan

California Grizzlies

The California flag flaunts a grizzly bear with its characteristic shoulder hump. Sadly, no grizzly bears have lived in the state since the 1920s. The great bears disappeared from the Livermore Valley and its nearby mountains much earlier. The grizzly bear was the only native bear in this area. In coastal range valleys between 1830 and 1849, according to Charles Shinn in his book, *Historical Sketches of Southern Alameda County, 1889*, "grizzlies were to be seen in droves, or companies of twenty or more, gathering acorns under the oaks in autumn, or digging roots in spring or summer." The early practice of the ranchos had been to slaughter their cattle herds mostly for the hides, leaving the meat for scavengers like the grizzlies. The bears were not averse, however, to killing live cattle. Thomas McNamee, author of *The Grizzly Bear*, claimed that grizzly densities in California (over 10,000) were exceeded only by those in Alaska.

As the state population increased during the gold rush, hunters killed bears for their meat and oil. When smaller ranches replaced the huge Mexican tracts, the owners were not inclined to allow grizzly bears to prey on their cattle. They led expeditions into the hills to kill the marauders, and even laced freshly killed cattle with strychnine so that if the bears returned to feed on the carcasses, they would be poisoned.

James D. Smith, who lived in the San Ramon area in 1853 when he was a boy, told of hunting for a grizzly that had killed one of the finest cows in William Mendenhall's herd. Five men, including Mendenhall, came to the Smith house and asked to borrow their hunting dog. The dog would not go with the strangers, so

Smith's father suggested that Jimmy accompany them but stay safely back in the camp. Jimmy, of course, did not stay in camp but trailed along behind the men. The dog found the bear's trail; the hunting party paused when the trail led into a thick stand of chaparral. Thinking the situation was safe because they had stopped, Jimmy caught up with them. As soon as the dog entered the chaparral, the bear came crashing out. All the hunters except for John Cottrell ran away, but Cottrell stood by Jimmy and, when the grizzly rose on its hind feet, he shot it. The wounded animal scrambled back into the chaparral; when they returned the next day, the bear was dead. In later years Jimmy would tease Mendenhall, saying that William had led the procession in the race from the bear.

James Capen Adams, a well-known eccentric mountain man nicknamed "Grizzly," visited the Corral Hollow area to the southeast of Livermore at least four times in the 1850s. He maintained his Mountaineer Museum with its menagerie in a San Francisco basement. His exhibits were also a sideshow of Henry C. Lee's Circus. Adams's animals joined the circus on various tours, including annual visits to gold mining towns. The circus often traveled through Corral Hollow and stopped at the Zink House tavern for refreshment and to hunt meat, before heading to the destination of the next show. Edward Carrell, proprietor of the Zink House, described Adams's two visits to Corral Hollow in 1855. Adams drove a wagon pulled by two mules, with two grizzlies, Lady Washington and Benjamin Franklin, following behind. Lady Washington was chained to the wagon. Benjamin Franklin roamed free with Adams's greyhound, Rambler. Adams bought food supplies and mining tools at the tavern and

spent some time hunting animals locally but did not find any grizzlies.

According to Carrell's diary, in 1856 Adams came back again and set up a large grizzly trap made of logs at a u-turn in the Coral Hollow Creek bed. Adams returned to San Francisco but hired Carrell to tempt a grizzly into his trap. Carrell tried various baits to no effect until he boiled some sugar into a thick syrup, which did attract a huge grizzly. On 4 November 1856 its roars of frustration at being caught could be heard all over the area. Carrell sent word to San Francisco, and Adams came. With sheet iron and logs Adams built a cage which was roped on the top of his wagon. Ever the showman, he fastened circus posters on the cage exterior for the journey from Corral Hollow to San Francisco with his new bear, christened "Silvertip." Early in 1860, Adams took his menagerie, including Silvertip, around Cape Horn in a sailing ship to New York City, where he quickly became famous for his exhibits with P.T. Barnum's circus. Adams was compelled to kill Silvertip when the bear went berserk in a crowd of people.

Jeremiah Morgan brought the paws of two bears he had killed in the Black Hills country north of Livermore into Concord in 1869. Slocum's *Contra Costa County History* credited him with having killed 46 grizzlies in one year alone. In his diary Edward Carrell recorded two young grizzly bears harassing his sheep in Corral Hollow in 1869 and carrying off a ewe. Again in June 1871 Carrell mentioned two grizzlies attacking his animals. By 1874, however, the great bears were gone from our area, although longtime City Clerk Elmer G. Still claimed that the last one in Murray Township was killed at Cresta Blanca in 1882.

(You can reach me at am50homan@yahoo.com.)

Annual Children's Fair Offers Something for Everyone

Family fun, entertainment and interesting information will all be part of the 2011 Children's Fair, organized by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. This year's event is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, and Sunday, Sept. 18, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave.

From 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday only, the Livermore Police Department will offer Car Seat Checks for families with young children. Featured on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be the Bicycle Rodeo. Kids can bring a bike and a helmet to learn safety rules while having fun. The Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department will be on hand both days with its Safety Trailer and Fire Truck.

Throughout the fair will be free make-it-and-take-it craft booths as well as information and vendor booths. An inflatable activity center will treat kids to jumping fun in the gymnasium, while pony rides and a petting zoo will entertain families outdoors. Food booths will offer treats to eat and drink.

Admission is free to Children's Fair, with select activities having a nominal fee. Parking will be in the Loyola Way lot. For more information, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us/programs/Childrens_Fair.html or call 925-373-5700.

Performance lineup for Children's Fair 2011:
Saturday, Sept. 17

- 10:30 a.m. – Triple Threat Performing Arts
- 11:40 a.m. – Taylor's Martial Arts
- 12:20 p.m. – West Coast Training Center - Gymnastics
- 1 p.m. – Zumbatomic for Kids
- 1:30 p.m. – Livermore Martial Arts Academy
- 2 p.m. – Livermore Lab Drug Dog Demo

Sunday, Sept. 18

- 10:30 a.m. – Grupo Foklorico Tlapalli
- 11:10 a.m. – Xtreme Dance Force
- 11:40 a.m. – Mad Science
- 12:20 p.m. – Amador Judo and Jujitsu Studio
- 1 p.m. – McGrath Irish Dancer
- 1:30 p.m. – Mad Science
- 2 p.m. – Livermore Lab Drug Dog Demo
- 3 p.m. – LARPD Dance Class from Amador Xtreme

Friends of Pleasanton Library Book Sale Set

The Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library will host the Fall Book Sale 2011 on Friday, September 23, through Sunday, September 25 at the Library's large meeting room.

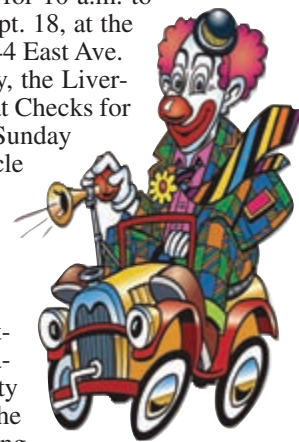
The Friday night sale will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for members only of the Friends of the Library, (join and pay the membership fee at the door); the sale is open to the general public on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Because of the tight confines of the sale layout, no strollers are allowed. The use of scanners is prohibited at the sale.

More than 40,000 donated books and other media from bestsellers to biographies to children's picture books will be for sale. Paperbacks will be priced at .50 cents each and hardbacks and large-format paperbacks will be available for \$1. The books are in good-to-perfect condition.

The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is a 501c3 non-profit organization created to support the Library. All revenue from the book sale will go to purchase new library materials, programs or equipment.

The Friends are seeking adult volunteers to help set up the sale and to work during the sale hours. For book sale or volunteer information, please call Nancy Bering, (925) 462-4368.



Review

Spectacular Opener for Opera San Jose

By Susan Steinberg

This week the center of the Bay Area's opera world was NOT San Francisco, but San Jose, where a blockbuster new "Idomeneo" has drawn opera-lovers from as far away as New York. In fact, this sumptuous production is reminiscent of the grand old Met super-shows, like "Aida," and just as grandly sung.

As indomitable OSJ Director Madame Irene Dalis noted, this rarity is "famously difficult to cast and produce." A fortuitous partnership between OSJ and the Packard Humanities Institute (PHI) has resulted in a spectacular achievement, both vocally and visually.

Thanks to PHI's financial resources and the tireless efforts of its President, David W. Packard, this daunting opera seria has become a lively and compelling human drama, vividly evoking the glory of ancient Greece after the Trojan War. A noted classical scholar, Packard envisioned a setting in the storied world of Minoan civilization and he oversaw the re-creation of Crete's famous kingdom in meticulous authentic detail.

No production of this masterpiece, however spectacular, can triumph without a cadre of exceptionally gifted singers, endowed with heroic stamina and outstanding vocal technique. Opera San Jose has assembled not just one, but two alternating casts of this caliber.

Heading the roster as Idomeneo, King of Crete, was Christopher Bengochea, most recently Pinkerton in LVO's "Madama Butterfly" and Rodolfo in OSJ's "La Boheme." Winner of the prestigious Irene Dalis Opera Competition, he displayed heroic-tenor vocal power as the tormented father forced to sacrifice his beloved son Idamante to the implacable Sea-God Neptune. Even in silence, his inner agony was palpable, and his impassioned arias were truly moving as well as magnificent.

Rebecca Davis, also a winner of the Irene Dalis Competition, was a vocal powerhouse as well. Playing Ilia, captured daughter of Troy's murdered King Priam, she opened the opera with an extended scene of grief over her country's ruin, and guilt over her love for Greek Prince Idamante, enemy of her people. She captured the audience with a

torrent of emotional outpourings, ringing with heartfelt passion.

Newcomer Aaron Blake was arguably the evening's most astounding performer. A perfect princely Idamante in looks and masterful acting ability, he displayed a voice of tender sweetness, virile strength, and overwhelming emotional conviction. Whether in despair over Ilia's coldness or his father's seeming rejection, or in heroic mode ready to fight the terrible monster sent by an angry Neptune, he was unfailingly noble in bearing and countenance, and touchingly credibly human. His finest moment came when, learning of his father's sacrificial vow, he presented himself at the altar as a willing victim.

When Ilia rushed in, eager to sacrifice herself in Idamante's place, the emotional pitch was raised to unbearable levels. A resounding deus ex machina (OSJ bass Silas Elash) pronounced a celestial reconciliation, to the earth-shaking chords of the theater's massive pipe organ, a truly electrifying experience!

Left out of the joyous finale was Princess Electra, daughter of Greek King Agamemnon, who had hoped to marry Prince Idamante. Seething with rage over his obvious preference, for Trojan prisoner-princess Ilia in the opening scene, she sang a vengeful aria of great pyrotechnical power, invoking the Furies of Hades to her aid. Dramatic soprano Christina Major threw herself into the emotional frenzy of a scorned woman with intensity of voice and visage.

Other cast members included Paul Gemignani as a majestic mute Neptune, Matthew Edwardsen, the imposing High Priest, and Nova Safo as Arbace, the King's old advisor. His heartfelt plea for mercy from the gods was a poignant interlude in the final dramatic crescendo. An unusual artistic team brought this huge production to its exceptional excellence, with major responsibility going to internationally famed director Brad Dalton and Chorus Master Andrew Whitfield. Set Designer Steven C. Kemp and Lighting Designer Christopher Ostrom created

the Minoan magnificence (and a series of memorable storms) in collaboration with Costume Designer Johan Stegmeir and Wig/Makeup Designer Jeanna Parham. Ballet San Jose Artistic Director Dennis Nahat choreographed elaborate ballet sequences performed by his virtuoso dancers, who stunned viewers with their climactic Minoan bull-leaping re-enactment.

Greatest of the curtain-call accolades was reserved for Maestro George Cleve, world-famous Mozart interpreter and beloved founder of San Francisco's venerable Midsummer Mozart Festival. Conducting and accompanying with his hallmark combination of strength and sensitivity, he brought principals, chorus, and augmented orchestra together in a definitive performance of what many consider Mozart's magnum opus.

This was truly a once-in-a-lifetime operatic experience, thanks to the faith of Madame Dalis, the vision of David W. Packard, and the efforts of hundreds of participants. Hats off to everyone from this reviewer, who plans to return to

enjoy the alternate cast and absorb more of the production details.

Remaining performances of "Idomeneo" are scheduled for September 17, 22 and 23 (evenings) with Sunday matinees September 18 and 25. Tickets are available from the Box Office at 408-437-4450 or at boxoffice@operasj.org. OSJ's venue is the California Theater, a magnificently-restored landmark movie palace at 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose. Be sure to arrive 1 1/2 hours early for the always witty and enlightening pre-curtain talk by General Manager Larry Hancock.

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LLNL to offer Fun With Science



The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is holding a special series of its popular "Fun with Science" show at the Discovery Center.

Designed for children at the fifth grade level (though it can also be enjoyed by children younger and older), Fun with Science is intended to spark kids' interest in science through entertaining demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Space is limited; registration is required. Call (925) 423-3272. Children must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. The Discovery Center is located in an open area at the Laboratory. No badging is required.

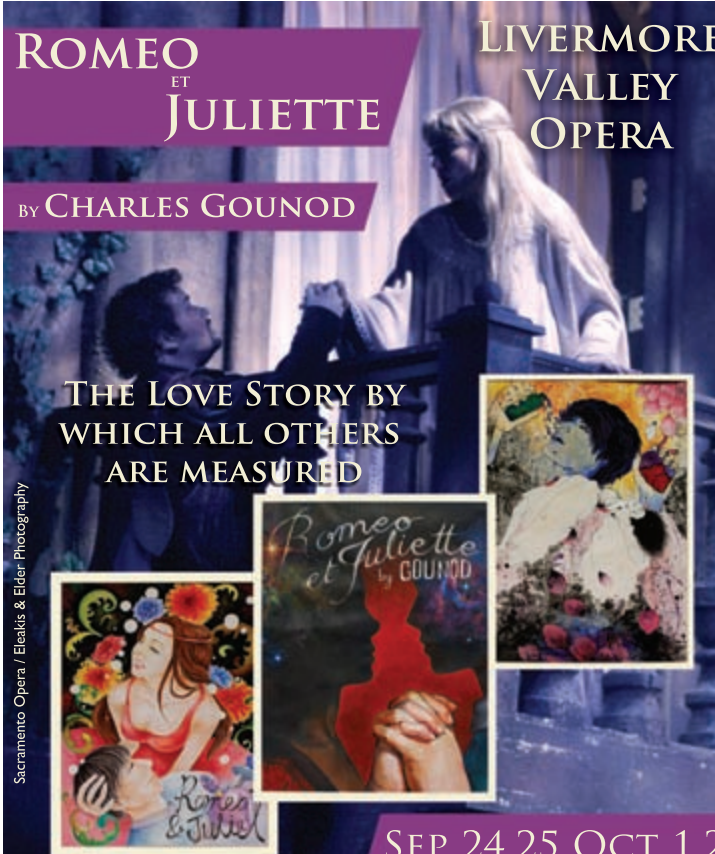
The "Fun With Science" show is scheduled for:
Saturday, Sept. 17
Session 1: 12:30-2 p.m.
Session 2: 2:30-4 p.m.

925-423-3272 or superscience@llnl.gov
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BY CHARLES GOUNOD

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BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to editmail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

East Bay Entertainment Book, being sold by the Foothill Choirs now through September 30th. This is a school fund-raiser. Books cover from Tri-Valley to Oakland, Fremont and Tracy. Great Value still for only \$30. Checks can be made out to "Foothill Choirs." Out-of-town books can be shipped (each book has a different price). Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588-9720.

DelArroyo 4-H Club invites the public to see the National Science Experiment, Wired for Wind on Oct. 19, 2011 during a Community Club meeting at Arroyo Seco School, 5280 Irene Way, Livermore. This national event is designed to engage hundreds of thousands of American youth in a single science experiment focusing on a very important issue facing our global community - renewable energy. www.delarroyo4hclub.org

Scholarships for Veterans, Livermore Post 47 of the American Legion will be raising funds for student veterans scholarships who attend Las Positas College. The fund-raising will take place during the Altamont Cruisers Nostalgia Day Car Show on September 25, 2011 in downtown Livermore. Post 47 of the American Legion will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs, soda and water. The concession will be located on 2nd Street, north side, between J and K Streets. For additional information call Bill Bergmann, Post 47 Adjutant, 925-443-2330, or email: calegion.post47@gmail.com.

Coldstone Creamery Ice Cream Social and Pie Sale to benefit Harvest Park Middle School Cheer Team will be on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 4 to 9 p.m. at the downtown Pleasanton store. HPMS cheer coach, teachers and administrators will be "Celebrity Scoopers" from 4-9 p.m. Contact event coordinator Barrie Shaffer at bshaffer@gmail.com for further information. Be sure to present a red Coldstone flier at the time of purchase (Fliers will be available from cheerleaders at the event). In addition, the cheerleaders will be taking orders for ice cream pies.

Livermore High School Alumni Association will be hosting their second annual "Alumni Mixer" at Eagle Ridge Vineyard on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The admission free event is open to all Livermore High School alumni and their guests. There will be complimentary appetizers. Wine, beer and non-alcoholic drinks will be available to purchase. Proceeds from the mixer will be used to support Livermore High School. Eagle Ridge Vineyard's is located at 10017 Tesla Road in Livermore - 1.9 miles east from the Greenville and Tesla Roads' intersection. R.S.V.P. (by Oct. 12) to Kristin Waters Meyer Class of '87 and Board Member (925) 447-4758 or skmeyer24@comcast.net.

From Endings to New Beginnings - Class of 2012: an extensive community fund-raising art project celebrating the diversity and depth of the 2012 graduating class. Profits from the sale of the book benefits the Livermore Valley Education Foundation. Members of the Class of 2012 Seniors are being sought to participate in a free creative photo session that will be featured in the book. Participants will receive a complimentary 5" fine art print and must sign a model release to be featured in the book. There is no cost to participate. Call the ultra-spectre photography studio at 925.449.9879.

Mariachi music classes start September 22 at 6:30-8:30 pm. Mariachi club Los Vaqueros de Livermore provides music training and education with professional musicians on the following instruments: trumpet, guitar, guitarrón, vihuela, violin and voice, for ages 8 and up, at all skill levels. For more information, contact Alicia Calónico: (925) 960-0654 acalónico@yahoo.com, or Belia Martínez at the Junction School Parent Center: (925) 606-4720, ext 6392 bmartinez@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us. Check the website at http://jams.schoolloop.com under Students-Clubs.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Sept. 17, 25-40 miles, Feather Pedal ride start in the Crank 2 parking lot at 9:30 a.m., climb Calavares to first summit, Karin Ball, 408-406-2286. Sun., Sept. 18, 58 miles Al-

tamont loop, meet 8:30 a.m. at Shannon Park in Dublin, Dan Carhart, 548-2809. Wed., Sept. 21, 37 miles Calavares Rd. to Ed Levin, meet 10 a.m. at Pleasanton Ridge staging area, Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Retired public employees under Calpers retirement, meeting Thurs., Oct. 6, 10:45 a.m. at Emil Villa's Hickory Pit & Grill, 3-64 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Keith Beck will speak on "The Visiting Angels" and their home care services. Information, call Murial Springer, 447-1920.

Flea Market, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Sat., Sept. 24, set up at 6 p.m., close at 4 p.m. Parking Lot, 527 No. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Cost \$20 for a 15'x15' space, \$5 for table rental. Sign up for a space at the Eagles social room or call 449-6291 or 449-5807. Vendors welcome.

California Retired Teachers Association Tri-Valley Division 85, luncheon meeting 11:15 a.m. Sept. 20 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Speaker is Camille Minichino, author, who will discuss the elements of fiction and how to find an agent. Cost \$13. Guests welcome. Information, 371-8544.

Fair trade gift sale, Sun., Oct. 16, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Michael Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Prices range from \$5 to \$20. Craft items suitable for Christmas gifts and other occasions. Items include baskets, scarves, nativities, tree ornaments, soaps, candles, puzzle boxes, toys, musical instruments, children's books and figurines. "Fair Trade" means that the artisans receive a living wage. Information at http://stm-scm.blogspot.com, or www.crsfairtrade.org.

Livermore Library Board of Trustees, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 22 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Comedy fund-raiser: Exceptional Needs Network "ENN" has an upcoming fund-raiser at Tommy T's in Pleasanton on Thurs., Sept. 15. Doors open 6:30 p.m., show begins at 7:30 p.m. Headliner is Robert Duchaine; show opener is "Tri-Valley local" Regina Stoops. Tickets are \$15 for one, \$25 for two, and \$100 for a table of ten. Raffle prizes available. To purchase tickets online, please visit http://ennnetwork.org/TT/Support_ENN_at_Tommy_Ts/Support_ENN.html. Funds raised are used to help pay for staff and activities/vendors for the November camp.

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, will be held at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thurs., Oct. 13, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Bill Bigley will show photos of his trip to South Africa. Bill visited Johannesburg, Soweto, the Pilansberg Game Reserve, Lesedi cultural village, Pretoria, the Drakensberg Mountains, Mossel Bay, Cape Town, the Cape of Good Hope, and many other sights during his trip. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 373-5500.

3rd Annual Walk for Education, hosted by the American Swim Academ to benefit the Livermore Valley Education Foundation (LVEF). The walk takes place at the Livermore High School football track in Livermore on Saturday, October 1 from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is open to the public by downloading a registration form at www.americanswimacademy.com/LVEF. The entry fee is \$5. Each registered participant will receive a t-shirt and refreshments. There will also be a Family Fun Festival during the walk with live entertainment, DJ music, family friendly booths and more. For more information about the 2011 Walk for Education, please visit www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com/LVEF or contact Jennifer Lee at 925-833-7946 x105.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club meets Mon., Sept. 19, 7 p.m. at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. There will be a presentation and discussion of the new electoral districts, impact of the top two primary rule & club endorsements. The Political Action Committee of the Alameda Democratic Party will make the presentation and lead the discussion. Refreshments. www.TriValleyDems.com

Free Diabetes Self-Management Classes, 7 week series will teach you how to manage your diabetes with exercise, health eating

(including the foods you love) and medications, and answer all your questions about living with diabetes. Mondays, October 17 through November 28, 2-4 p.m. at the Dublin Senior Center. Sundays, November 6 through December 18, 3-5 pm at Heritage Estates in Livermore. Class is open to all adults with pre diabetic or type 2 diabetes. Please call the Alameda County Diabetes Program at 510-383-5185 to register. Space is limited!

Toastmasters - Livermore Lunch Bunch meets Mondays at noon, conference room, 2157 First St., Livermore. Learn to develop communication and leadership skills in a supportive environment that fosters self-confidence and personal growth. www.livermoretoastmasters.org. Sept. 15, 12:15 p.m. ribbon cutting ceremony and open house planned.

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College Prep Classes in Livermore - LARPD is offering classes in "Navigating the College Application Maze" (9/20/11 6:30 - 9 pm), "Last Minute SAT Prep" (9/19/11 5:30 - 9 pm), and "Writing Essays that Shine" (9/24/11 1 - 3:30 pm or 10/10/11 6 - 8:30 pm). Classes will be held at Robert Livermore Community Center 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. Register at larpd.dst.ca.us or 373-5700, or go to susanprep.com for additional information.

D.A.R. Daughters of the American Revolution, Jose Marie Amador Chapter, Pleasanton. Meetings first Saturday of the month. Group is comprised of descendants of Patriots of the American Revolution. It is a service organization that provides contests, awards and scholarships. For members, prospective members, and information on meeting location, contact Ann 510-507-5509 or anarisco@comcast.net.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA. Lunch in Pleasanton, Sept. 21, 1 p.m., RSVP by Sept. 18 to Pat, 447-7680. Brunch/lunch in Pleasanton, Sept. 25, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by Sept. 22 to Marsha, 830-8483. Lunch in Livermore, Sept. 18, 1 p.m. RSVP by Sept. 25 to Ruby, 462-9636. Annual picnic, Pleasanton, Oct. 1, 2:30 p.m., RSVP by Sept. 28 to Ruby, 462-9636.

Country Store Silent Auction, Wed., Nov. 2, Livermore Division, VA Palo Alto Health Care System. Donations are being sought for the voluntary service executive committee annual fund-raiser. Please send by Oct. 19 to VA Palo Alto care System, Livermore Division, Sue Scott, Voluntary Service (135), 4951 Arroyo Rd., CA 94550. Auction will be held Wed., Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the VA in Livermore. Information, call Sue Scott 449-6448.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, September 28, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Please join us if you can. Questions??? Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), meets at Hillcrest Community Gardens Building, 550 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore. Mondays, 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. private weigh-in, 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. meeting. All are welcome. Non-profit, self-help organization founded in 1950. TOPS members are guided by a nutritionist and a medical doctor at the national headquarters. Members are encouraged to use the diabetic exchange program and are free to use whatever food they plan. Information, contact Sue at 462-6281.

Livermore Heritage Guild, annual dinner and general meeting, Sept. 24, Duarte Garage. Doors open 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Irv Stowers will speak about the restoration of the 1920 Seagrave fire engine. Tickets available at the History Center, 2155 Third St., Livermore in late August. No host bar. Dress is casual.

Livermore High School Class of '61, 50th reunion, looking for class members and/or teachers. Main event on Oct. 8, Doubletree Hotel, Livermore. Other festivities include cocktail party, Oct. 7 and breakfast, Oct. 9. Contact LHS Committee at 1961lhs@gmail.com or PO Box 888, Livermore, CA 94551, 925-371-0824.

Evening in the Vineyard, SonRise Equestrian Foundation partners with Wente Vineyards for: An Evening in the Vineyard Friday, Sep-

tember 16 starting at 6 p.m. The event will be held Wente Vineyards in Livermore. This will be an evening featuring estate grown wines, appetizers on the terrace, gourmet food by Wente, dancing entertainment from Jack Pollard, a live and silent auction and wine cellar raffle. All proceeds will provide support to rescue horses and help children to who are facing social, emotional and physical challenges. Tickets cost \$150. For more information or to purchase tickets call 925-838-RIDE (7433) or visit www.sonriseequestrianfoundation.org.

The Writing Club, Young Adults, ages 12-21, are invited to join The Writing Club at the Livermore Public Library, Civic Center. The Writing Club will meet once a month on Thursdays, October 6, November 3, and December 1, 2011, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, for an evening of writing with author J.L. Powers. There is no charge to join. Take writing a step further by learning about publishing and how to expand writing horizons. For more information, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net, or contact Sandy at 925-373-5500 extension 5583.

1st Annual CYO Golf Tournament to be held Friday, September 16, 2011, at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. A shotgun start will begin at 1:00 p.m. \$120.00 per player with a banquet dinner included. Dinner only guests - \$35.00. Sponsors are needed, as well - \$100.00 per tee. Raffle prizes as well as per hole contests. Reserve a spot today! Looking for foursomes or we can match you up that day. For more information, please contact Norma Jean via email at njfromindy@yahoo.com.

Disaster Preparedness Fair, September 22, 2011, 4 to 8 p.m. at Carnegie Park, Livermore. Held in conjunction with the Livermore Farmers' Market.

Beginners Internet Classes, four-class series to learn to surf the Internet and send emails. Absolute beginners are welcome. Classes are held at 9:00 am with a choice of Tuesday or Thursday sections. Registration is required. Reserve a spot at the Reference Desk, or call 925/931-3400, extension 7. Library programs are free and open to everyone. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collect supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Please contact PleasantonMilitaryFamilies@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA), a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. Meetings are held Wednesdays at San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church in Alamo at 9:30 am 2nd floor. For more information or a list of additional meetings throughout the U.S. and the world, call 781-932-6300 or visit: www.foodaddicts.org.

New Event, in addition to our Victorian tea, Ice Cream social and Children's Yuletide, Ravenswood has created a new Fall event, an old fashioned Peddlers Faire. On Sunday October 9, vendors' booths will fill the beautiful grounds between the hours of 11am and 4pm. Chairman Sandy Silva is requesting early vendor registration of quality crafts, antiques, jewelry, books, bric-a-brac, quilts, linens, photographs, paintings, ceramics, furniture and glassware. A \$25 donation will include a table with 2 chairs. Early registration is recommended. Contact Ms. Silva at silva4398@comcast.net or at 925-462-7324. Light refreshments will be provided by Victorian dressed volunteers and docents will give cottage tours.

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004 and is dedicated to the continued support of our deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. If you or anyone you might know has loved ones deployed we would be honored to assist by providing morale support. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call

925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information please call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.

RELIGION
Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. worship (semi-formal); 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). For information, call 925-447-1246.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Calvary Chapel Livermore, Sunday Services 10:30 am and 6:00 p.m. 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvalyrlivermore.org.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; workshops on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

The deaf community is invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, where ASL translation will be provided every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of 4th and L streets.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 447-9800.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Observances, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews secular humanistic observances. Secular Rosh Hashanah Observance at Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Road, Livermore, on Wednesday, September 28, 7-9 p.m. Program of readings and music, followed by a reception of honey cake, apples and honey, and holiday challah. Kid-friendly. Adult non-members are asked to contribute \$10 per person as a donation. Collecting canned and boxed food for the food bank. Secular Yom Kippur Observance at Bothwell Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore, on Saturday, October 8, 1-4 p.m. Program of readings and music, followed by workshop sessions and a memorial ceremony. Adult non-members are asked to contribute \$10 per person as a donation. Collecting canned and boxed food for the food bank. There will also be an opportunity to donate to various charitable organizations.

Eckankar, "Opening Your Heart to God's Love" is the theme of the next ECK Worship Service, Sunday, September 18 at 11:00 AM. The ECK Worship service is held once a month on the third Sunday at the Four Points Sheridan, 5115 Hopyard Road (about 2 blocks south of the I-580 Hopyard exit). For further information, Please contact http://eck-ca.org/ by computer, or call Kathy at (925) 944-0118.